THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL,

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

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COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

A TELEGRAPH WITHOUT WIRES.

A Novel and Practical Signal Apparatus for Army Use—Heliotropes and Magnesium Lights.

The value to the Union armies in our war of the efficient service of the Signal Corps are recognized, and in their general borrowing of American military ideas it is not likely that the combatants in the present European struggle will neglect to avail themselves of the services of a signal corps. It is well known that flag signals were most commonly, if not altogether, used by the American corps, yet there is another manner of signalling that would seem especially adapted to the "many land of France," and one particularly suited to a region any wise hilly. With the method in contemplation it would be possible to rapidly telegraph perfect signals right over the heads of an enemy and not a man of them see the operation, or at least understand the meaning.

The method proposed is simply that of "heliotroping," flashing the sun light from mirrors, long used by engineers as an aid in measuring angles upon long lines, but first adapted to telegraphy on the United States Lake Survey. In 1865 several of the Assistants on this work were engaged in measuring the angles of the primary triangulation of Green Bay and Lake Michigan, and as some of the lines of sight were so extended that the station to be observed could not be seen from the observing station, heliotropes were supplied. This instrument is nothing but a small and fine mirror so adjusted as to cast a reflection of the sun directly upon a given line in a certain plane. While the officers were using these instruments thus they conceived the idea of applying the principle to them. This they succeeded in doing, and men easily conversed together where they could not see each other's stations, rapidly translating the dots and dashes of light reflected from the heliotrope into the letters of words and sentences. The Morse telegraphic alphabet was used, the shortest flashes representing dots and the longer ones dashes. Experience in manipulating the heliotrope soon developed perfection, and while messages were transmitted with the speed of light, the operators acquired the skill to "write" them nearly as rapidly as the average operator does his words of lightning.

Some actual examples will show how practical is this method of telegraphing. In the next summer, 1866, some of these officers, then engaged upon the primary triangulation of Lake Superior, in the telegraph party, were sixty and ninety miles long. At the close of the season the party was divided into three sections. The first, with the commanding officer, was to visit the Apostle Islands, in Kewenaw Point. The second was on Mt. Wheallrate, across Keweenaw Bay and Portage Lake, and behind Houghton. The third was on the Huron Mountains, about south of Vulcan, and distant from it about sixty miles, as was Wheallrate. Fog and rain for several days had interfered with work and prevented communication, but one evening the sun, just as he was setting, suddenly appeare on Vulcan, and the order was telegraphed to Huron and Wheallrate to get ready to work. The final order "after which pack up and be ready when the steamer calls for you." There were but a few moments of light, yet they sufficed, and the parties thus widely separated were enabled to send their respective directions to the steamer, all within hearing of each other's voices. The next summer, 1867, these parties were again on Lake Superior. One on Vulcan again; another on the northeast point of Keweenaw, Tiptop, Cape Northeast, British America; the third on Isle St. Ignace, 98 miles north of Vulcan. St. Ignace was about 95 miles west of Tiptop, after the superintendent of the work visited the latter station on the yawl steamer *Search* the officers at Tiptop telegraphed with the heliotrope to those at St. Ignace, that he was coming, and that he desired certain signals from them. The response was that vast expanse of water as speedily and as correctly as it could have gone upon the wires, and when the superintendent arrived at St. Ignace, he found things ready for him as he desired.

In this heliotrope then there is a signal apparatus, portable as a mirror, as easily put in position, and requiring only sunlight for its operation. The message, as soon as put in form of writing, that can be sent by electric telegraph can go by this, which has the great advantage over signal flags of being seen from only a few degrees of horizontal line, because it is seen in the limited line and plane in which it is exhibited, not out bold like a flag. Wherever there is sunlight strong enough to reflect on a mirror, the heliotrope can be used, and over the world in which this instrument was used on the Lake survey, there was some experimenting with magnesium and other artificial lights, but they were found to be inadequate for signalling purposes they are available at any distance, within the limits of the horizon. Thus, with the sun by day and magnesium or electric light, directed from parabolic reflectors at night, there is a means of rapid telegraph, without wires and always ready.

PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.

Pere Hyacinthe Calls for a Free Council to Act Upon the Dogma—Statement Regarding it by the Bishop of Ireland—The Archbishop of Cincinnati.

Father Hyacinthe publishes a long letter, in which he decides that Catholics are not bound to accept the doctrine of infallibility. Because for an Ecumenical Council to have any verisimilitude it must be composed of the Bishops of the present one has not been so, as is proved by the repeated protests of so many illustrious bishops; and next he remarks that the representative character of the assembly will not be established by the fact that the Pope asserts that the bishops, who are the witnesses of faith, are limited beforehand by that very character, and can only exercise their functions on truths which have always and everywhere been acknowledged. Moreover, they exceed the powers confided to them, the Church cannot recognize the arbitrary work accomplished, and the Council will remain without value. And he adds that it is clear that at this moment a greater danger exists of a schism than has ever before existed. He says: At such moments every Christian has the right to invoke the liberty given by God and that of all. For myself, I feel an interior presentiment of my duty, and, as the old prophet says, to deliver my soul: *Te autem omnimo tamen liberavi.* I protest, therefore, against the dogmatic definition of the infallibility of the Pope, such as it is formulated in the decree of the Council of Rome. That I cannot be obliged to receive it, that I cannot refuse to remain so; therefore I refuse to admit, as impossible to the creed of the Church, the irretrievable unknown to all ecclesiastical antiquity, disputed even to-day by numerous and eminent theologians, and which, moreover, is of particular development, but a radical change in the constitution of the church and in the immutable basis of the faith. Because I am a Catholic and wish to remain so, I protest with all my might against the introduction of this error, awarded to a man who is presented to our faith—it was about to say our worship—as unique in his person both the domination which is repugnant to the spirit of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the duty of infallibility, incompatible with the clay of which I formed like the most illustrious predecessor of Pius IX., St. Gregory the Great, refused, as a sign of anti-Christ, the title of universal bishop, which was offered him. What would he have said of that of infallible? I appeal, then, from it to a really free and ecumenical, and above all, I appeal to God. Men have been impotent to accomplish the design of Providence, and to-day Almighty arises and takes in hand and judges it. The Ecumenical, which was to be a work of light and peace, has intensified the darkness and enkindled discord in the religious world. War is spreading over the northern and the social system. War is a scourge of God; but in bringing the enactisement may it not therefore announce the end of a corrupt and the ancient edifice, may it not clear the ground on which the Divine Spouse of the Church will construct the New Jerusalem?

Bishop Rappe, of Cleveland, upon his return home was given a fine reception by his people, and in his address of thanks, regarding the infallibility question, said that they were not to that Council as men, but in the name and by the authority of Christ. They published the declaration of the great truth that the Pope he infallible when he speaks, and not controlled by the spirit of Christ, he acts for Him and his decrees cannot be binding upon any. Insult and misrepresentation had been heaped upon the Pope by misenemies throughout the world, but they were powerless to injure him, save false impressions. The church was suffering for want of authority and they must firmly establish these truths in minds of principles.

Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, says that the signed declaration of adoration the protest against a threatened pressure of the Ecumenical vote for the dogma, and his fellow-signers told the Holy Father that if that plan were carried out the infallibility of the Ecumenical cressy would thereby be removed, and placing his hand on his mouth there would be no "pax" there would be all the proceedings that come out. He explains that the supporters of the infallibility mean by it only that the Pope can make no error, in the head of the Church, in expounding the Christian religion. In no other matters can he be called infallible.

MASSACRE IN CHINA.

Further Particulars—Shocking Barbarities.

The San Francisco *Bulletin* has a private letter from Tientsin giving the following account of the cause of the massacre:

As most of the reports that have as far have come through Chinese channels it has been difficult to get at a clear and connected statement of the details and the causes which led to it.

From the best information attainable the Sisters of Charity have been in the habit of paying a premium of a certain sum per head for all the children brought to their institutions. This caused, as the Chinese assert, kidnapping to obtain the bounty. How far this is true to a greater or less extent—at any rate the Chinese honestly believed it, and have complained of it for a long time. In addition to this unwise action Indiscriminate were held out to induce children to be brought to the Catholic mission in the last stages of illness for the purpose of baptism *in articulo mortis*.

In filled with many children, and the Sisters and Missions when about to die, baptised and soon after taken away dead.

About the beginning of June some sort of an epidemic broke out in the "Tientsin" establishment of the Sisters of Charity. A rumor got about that the "sisters" were killing the children for the purpose of getting their eyes and hearts for the manufacture of a medical specific, which commanded a handsome price abroad. The rumor, too improbable and absurd for belief by any civilized and Christian people, was told by one to another and honestly believed by the mass of this ignorant and superstitious people. Angry and excited crowds assembled in the street from time to time in the neighborhood of the Mission buildings and demanded the release of the children. Nothing, so far as I can learn, was done by the Sisters, Priests or French Consul to allay the excitement or dissipate the minds of the people. At length the crowd, ten thousand strong, and one of the most impracticable of Frenchmen, positively refused to have an examination made.

We annex a few paragraphs from Tientsin correspondence, descriptive of the horrors of the massacre:

Simultaneously with the assault on the French Consulate, the mob and soldiery surrounded the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity. Having set fire to a portion of the building, they entered the gates and dragged all the Sisters of Charity into the street. Having they stripped them naked, exposed them to the public gaze, plucked out their eyes, cut off their breasts, ripped them open, dragged out their hearts, and deliberately cut them to pieces and threw the mangled remains among the infuriated mob. Chinese spectators of the scene relate that the women were perpetrated on these innocent ladies that cannot be mentioned. The lady Superioress of the Sisters of Charity was beheaded, cut in two while yet alive.

No sooner had the mob and the soldiers glutted their fury with the horrible bloody butchery of the unfortunate Sisters, than they burnt the entire hospital. The building, constructed of wood, and which was of the poorest kind, and always inflammable, was consumed in a few hours, only the roof remaining. These girls had recently been little schooling, being barely able to read and write (I myself have seen them intelligible manner. Though quite familiar with the Chinese language, they could not be understood. I need not tell you how corrupting that system is. Many parents are willing to cast their sons for any man who would give a dollar a month. Those who were employed in the same work for the same kind of pay. Now, as the Sisters have gathered around them a large number of children, and have the control of them, they are encouraging for large quantities of iron ore.

The gold coinage at the Mint in Philadelphia during the month of July was $27,300 in double eagles, besides 969 silver dollars. The silver coinage during the same period was $20,282 96; the nickel coinage was $11,696, and the copper coinage was $7,500—making a total of $67,241 93.

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There resides at Mill Village, Erie county, an aged citizen, who, though quiet and unobtrusive in his way, is one of the few men of other days who form the grand connecting link between that period and the present. Mr. Wm. Hunter is one for years well known along the Allegheny as among the pioneers in keelboating, led a prior to the era of steamboats and railroads. In 1812 he was one of those engaged in the transportation of ammunition from Pittsburgh to Erie, by way of French Creek, and did his good service for his country in that important period of its history. Like many others of that time, the rude life led by him at home, and though laborious and exhausting, he would not have exchanged its exciting duties for any other. He is seventy-five years old, upon his farm, surrounded with the comforts which years of industry have secured for him.

Bismarck is to be perpetuated in a base-ball club by the colored young men of Germantown.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Armagost are the oldest couple in Clarion county. They are ninety-two years old, and in full possession of all their faculties.

A Baptist college is to be erected at Jefferson, Greene county. The contract has been let, and the work is expected to go on without delay.

The new hammer in the Bessemer Steel Works at Harrisburg, weighs 35,000 pounds, and cost $22,000, and is the largest in the United States. The company soon expect to make 25,000 tons of steel rails per month.

Easton is in a bad way just now. The boilers of the water-works exploded a week ago, stopping the supply, and now a conflagration in the Bon-ton, Daniel in the ark, and Noah smiting the rock. This augurs well for Berks county if it persisted in, will have a most salutary effect.

The most despicable confidence operation we heard of, occurred in Philadelphia on Sunday last. A swindler called at a house where the head of the family had taken place, and proceeded to ask the daughter of the deceased in relation to her father's death. He expressed his gratification, and said as the family appeared to be poor he would see that the funeral should cost but a nominal sum, and counting up the cost, he said that $11 75 would be all that the family need pay. The sum was gratefully handed over to him, when he departed for the undertaker to make the necessary arrangements for the funeral, but that was the last seen of him. The police are on the track of the fellow.

The *Coal Gazette* says: The newspapers all over the country are copying a paragraph in reference to a piece of coal to be sent at Buffalo. It weighs 8,000 pounds and is said to be the largest piece ever taken out of a mine. There has been laying for ten years past near the State of Liberty Coal Mine, and when they stripped them naked, exposed them to the public gaze, plucked out their eyes, cut off their breasts, ripped them open, dragged out their hearts, and deliberately cut them to pieces and threw the mangled remains among the infuriated mob. Chinese spectators of the scene relate that the women were perpetrated on these innocent ladies that cannot be mentioned. The lady Superioress of the Sisters of Charity was beheaded, cut in two while yet alive.

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STATE NEWS.

The Huntingdon fair will be held on the 4th, 5th and 6th of October.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: We are assured, and the statement is creditable, that for the month of the preceding last Wednesday the mean temperature had been five degrees above the average for the past half century. The last nine days of August were above the average for the last fifty years.

A young girl in Somerset county won the affections of a young railroader, and promised to marry him if he would buy the wedding dress. He did so and much more, when she concluded not to marry. He took the clothes and presents from her, when another kind of a suit (law) followed, in which the young lover came off second best.

The *Columbia Spy* has the following anecdote: Over in Berks county the young lawyers are taking an active interest in the cause of Sabbath schools. One of them, a young Democrat, made a very fine address to a Sabbath school at Mohnville, near Reading, last week. It was full of gilt-edged sentiments and pathos. The speaker related a number of Bible stories, but became very much confused—speaking of Moses in the Bul-den, Daniel in the ark, and Noah smiting the rock. This augurs well for Berks county if it persisted in, will have a most salutary effect.

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PERSONAL.

The ex President of the Academy of Chili, who is now in London, claims to be the "swiftest painter of the age," and challenges an English artist to a painting contest for $1,000 a side, the performance to take place in public, and the spectators to decide the wager by ballot, the stakes to be deposited in the hands of a third party. This will show the most "rapidity and excellence."

The Rev. Morrill Allen, the senior Alumnus of Brown University, class of 1794, died on Wednesday, at his residence in Pembroke, Mass., aged ninety-four years.

The latest rumor in regard to the English mission is that ex-Secretary Wade has been tendered the position of Secretary of the Interior, and that Secretary Cox will be sent Minister to England. Some newspapers are suggesting Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, to succeed Minister Motley.

The service book in use in one of the Boston churches contains hymns written by Charles A. Dana, of the New York *Sun*, and William H. Burleigh, of the Hartford *Times*.

Wilmore, the Boston sculptor, has just finished a bust of Wendell Phillips, an excellent likeness, and to be placed in the Massachusetts State House with his Senatorial colleague Wilson. He is now engaged on an equestrian statue of Colonel Shaw, of Fort Wagner fame.

French papers mention a rather singular incident in connection with the tragic death of M. Prevost-Paradol. Some years ago the author appeared a novel, by an anonymous author, in the *Revue Des Deux Mondes*, entitled "Mademoiselle de Mersac." The authorship was attributed to M. Paradol, who denied being the author, although he admitted that he had inspired some of the ideas that had given rise to the novel. The leading part of the story, however, is the best part of the plot of the novel, and the fate of the hero. The latter, a famous journalist, is appointed Ambassador of France at the Russian Court, and there committs suicide by blowing his brains out with a pistol, shortly after his arrival at his post. In fact, it is the history of M. Paradol himself, written years before the events chronicled therein occurred.

Ex-Secretary Borie and his family arrived at long Branch on Friday, and are the guests of the President. The latter will remain at the Branch until the close of next week, when he will proceed to Glenciffe, the summer residence of Secretary Fish, on Staten Island, N. Y. The President will arrive there in time to attend the closing up of the season at West Point on the Hudson. Secretary Robeson is already at Glenciffe.

A dispatch from Washington says that Senator Trumbull is in Washington. He has not been in Illinois since the adjournment of Congress, and will remain here a few days. He has no idea of leaving the Senate. He proposes to go into Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana and work energetically during the campaign.

Rev. M. D. Conway attempted to act as the war correspondent of the London *Daily News* and has got into Strasburg and is besieged there.

The Bismarck appointed Governor of the Province of Alsace is not, of course, the Prussian Minister, but a namesake of his, Gen. Bismarck-Bolen.

Admiral Farragut told a writer in the New York *Evening Post* that his name was a corruption of Ferrocute, an old Majorca nobility name. The family changed Ferrocuto to Farragut, who treated him as a cousin.

Major-General W. B. Hazen has received permission from the President to visit Europe and witness the movements of the war.

Miss Edith O'Gorman, who has for some time been the principal complainant of her revelations of convent life and attacks upon the Catholic clergy, was married in Jersey City on Friday evening last to Mr. Brooklyn Eclectic College, who is also an Episcopal clergyman.

The foreign members of the Academy of Fine Arts in Mexico have sent to Mr. Seward two paintings which are said to be very fine. One represents Virgil conducting Dante to the Circle of the Lustful, and the other is a portrait of Pius IX. to Maximilian and Carlotta at their residence in Rome while the ill-starred Emperor was in Mexico. The latter is to be presented as in memory of Mr. Seward's visit to the Academy, and his expressed admiration of it.

Mr. Oliver Hoyt, of Stamford, Ct., has a spacious yacht, in which he is conveying a party of distinguished Methodists in a pleasure cruise up the coast of New England. Among the guests are Abel Stevens, the historian of Methodism; Rev. Dr. Curry, of New York; Rev. F. G. Haven, President of the Northwestern University, and Dr. Tiffany, Dr. Andrews and Rev. W. C. Steele, of New York.

General Ethan Allen Hitchcock, who died at Sparta, Georgia, August 9th, was born at Vergennes, Vermont, May 18th, 1798. He was a grandson of Ethan Allen, educated at West Point in 1817, and after being in the Mexican war was made Commissary General of Subsistence in 1841, and in 1851, while Colonel of the 6th Infantry, he retired from the army, devoting himself to literary pursuits, mostly philosophical writings, &c. When the rebellion broke out he was appointed by President Lincoln, a personal friend, Major General of volunteers, serving as a sort of confidential adviser to President Lincoln, as well as Commissioner for Exchange of Prisoners.

A Nashville paper asserts that Colonel John Savage, of Tennessee, will be nominated for Congress because of the Fourteenth Amendment. Nevertheless, he thinks the United States a fine country, the Constitution in the main and morals, an enemy and a rebel, for he has a rebel leg and a loyal leg—one shattered at Shiloh and the other at Stone River—and the other under the Confederate States flag at Perryville.

The President has appointed the following cadets at large in place of those rejected or who failed to pass the necessary examination last June: William Logan Geaty, son of Governor Geaty, of Georgia; Thomas Ryan Bagnell, son of Assistant Inspector General Bagnell; Mr. Edwards Pierrepont, son of James Watson Webb; Clarence Deems, son of Colonel James Deems, of Maryland; William Maynadier, son of Brevet Major General Maynadier, grandson of the famous California pioneer.

It is announced that President Grant contemplates visiting Massachusetts again this season, also that he is to be present at Gen. Butler's muster, at Concord, on the 9th of September, when he will be the chief guest.

Says the London *Star*: "Mr. Bryant is now in his seventy-sixth year, hale, hearty and vigorous as at forty, with a step as quick and elastic as of old. He has had honors in plenty, respect and esteem of the good and true in all lands."

General Von Moltke is distinguished for taciturnity. Berlin letter says: People here are so accustomed to his peculiarities and solitary habits—evidently the result of constant pondering over his duties—that they think little of them. He is a man of few words. Yet he can express himself very fluently and very clearly on occasions as I myself can testify, having had the honor of explaining to topography of the seat of the Danish war. Some of the things he said have been broken by an individual who claims to be one of the grandees of the Bourse. "Well," he said, on one of the days I was with him, "there are some things getting on, General." "Thank you, sir," replied I, "for the very rye details you are getting on beautifully, but my potatoes are very backward." The Bourse gentleman disappeared.

A prominent Republican politician of New York says the talk of Greeley for Governor is only talk to cover a candidate not yet named. It is whispered that Gen. Sickles, Gen. Grant, Thomas Hughes, M. P., and author of "Tom Brown's School Days," has arrived in Quebec on his way to Niagara. He will visit with James Russell Lowell in the United States.

The Duke of Brunswick has returned to the castle of his fathers. His faithful subjects did not learn that their ruler was again at home until they read a notice to the effect that smoking was strictly forbidden, not merely within the castle grounds, but in the vicinity of the castle.

Wirt Sikes, the lecturer and President of the New York Author's Union, got into the Chicago Circuit Court Tuesday on his wife's application for divorce, alimony, protection and neglect of her and their two children.

Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi, has been elected to and accepted the position of Professor of Political Matters and History, in Emory College, Georgia.

Mr. S. Rybee, a Swede, resident of Red Wing, Minn., has invented a new breech loading firearm, which will soon be tested to the attention of European governments.

One result of the excitement now prevailing in Germany is a project to erect a monument to Dr. Luther, the reformer, at Eisenach. Kotzebue, March 23, 1818. Sand, a theological student at Jena, was enthusiastic upon the subject of German unity and freedom. Kotzebue, the author of the German drama, among other plays, was a conspicuous literary supporter of the German tyranny among the petty princes, and in Hilliger's opinion not sufficiently thought to aid the beloved Fatherland. The authorities executed Sand, and refused to let the monument raised over his remains, but the Burschen of the universities, who regard him as a martyr, would never allow the project to fail. Here are the Brutus or the John Brown of Germany.

Janauschek will play ere long at one of the New York theaters in as good English as she now converses, and, as was recently Siddons, the "most beautiful" has been engaged at the Wax Museum, which is a great letting down for her. Madame Seetach, the German tragedienne, has just left Europe for a visit to the United States, and already the newspapers are flooded with her portraits and with "notices" of her. It is doubtful whether she will prove a pecuniary success. She plays only what may be called the classic drama, and Lessing and Schiller and Goethe cannot be deemed popular as dramatic writers in the New York American audience. Her name was unknown here when Mr. Grau introduced it to the American press. The enormous demand made in New York promises to be the most exciting and closely contested that has been known for years.

The question of the Spanish throne will receive the proper interpretation from the intelligent reader: Don Sanchez, King of Castile, made a journey to Rome, a species of pious pilgrimage, which so delighted the then incumbent of the chair of St. Peter, that he conferred upon his royal visitor the title of King of Egypt, the consistory applauding with much enthusiasm the proceedings. Much to the noise, the prince demanded to know the cause, and was informed by his interpreter that the Pope had appointed him to the post of Egyptian throne. "We must not seem unmindful," said the King, "of the favors of Egypt to the Holy Father at once and proclaim him Caliph of Bagdad."

Benjamin Silliman, professor of chemistry in Yale college, resigned, and Professor Dana W. Wright, of Williams college, will lecture in his place next year.

The Providence *Journal* finds precedent for presidential vacations. It says: All the presidents were accustomed to leave the capital in the fervid months of summer. It was once their practice to go to their homes during the recess of Congress. And this was before the telegraph, before railroads. John Adams, when in two months of the month in June, and the only communication with the capital was by mails carried by horses. Gen. Grant, at Long Branch, can communicate with the department as readily almost as he could at Washington. Let him take a vacation if he will take him there if his presence is needed.

Congress having authorized that an equestrian statue of the late John A. Rawlins, Secretary of War be erected in one of the public parks in Washington city, and placed at the disposal of the President certain bronze ordnance of which to make the statue, the work will be commenced as soon as the necessary amount of money can be collected. The association having the matter in charge is presided over by Gen. John E. Smith, U. S. A., and among the Vice Presidents are Secretary Boutwell, Secretary Belknap, Postmaster General Creswell and other prominent officials. Circulars have already been sent out soliciting contributions to erect the statue.

Rev. Dr. Montgomery, of New York, in his remarks at Admiral Farragut's funeral, related a new anecdote of the fight at Mobile. On that occasion, while the Admiral was lashed in the rigging of the Hartford, he offered up a prayer in the following words: "O God, my Maker, lead me do do this day what is right and best for my country." In answer to the prayer the Admiral said he heard a voice from heaven which seemed, in tones of thunder, to say, "Go forward." He obeyed the voice, and went forward and conquered.

Of Edmund About, concerning whom there is said to be some mystery just at present, it is said that he is or was a bright, quick-witted writer, a sort of upper-crust Bohemian, no lower pen and inkhorn than the Grand Hotel and brought him a handsome income. He had lately been much petted by the Empress and was admitted to those intimate soirees, conversations which much powers are circulated. But like him the soirees are departed. This was the case with Prosper Merimee, the Engenie's soirees are likely to be of any thing but a gossipy character. It will be hard to find a subject which will not touch on the woman's society worth frequenting, unless she builds a palace on the Fifth Avenue investment and receives as a distinguished abdicatress.

A Washington dispatch states that many prominent naval officers are in favor of the appointment of Rear Admiral Goldsborough to the vice admiralship, on the ground of his seniority. They hold that his appointment would create no dissatisfaction, but if a rear admiral further down the list should be selected there would be much grumbling on the part of those above him.

The unfortunate Maximilian abducted and adopted as his heir apparent a descendant of his predecessor Iturbide, and at the request of Napoleon the lad is to be educated in France. It so happened that on his arrival at Havre he was claimed by his mother (who was one Miss Green, of Georgetown, D. C.), and she finally became the chief gainer by the latest turn in the affairs of this ill-fated family.

Mr. Longfellow is confined to his house in Cambridge with a severe attack of erysipelas.

Mr. Bancroft, the historian, is at Newport.

Mr. Motley, the ex-Minister to England, is at Dresden.

Mr. Bayard Taylor is at Gotha.

Mr. Fenimore Cooper is at Florence.

Mr. Longfellow is at Nahant.

Mr. Whittier is at Amesbury.

Mr. Emerson is at Concord.

Mr. Holmes is at Beverly.

Mr. Lowell is at Elmwood.

Mr. Hawthorne is at Concord.

Mr. Agassiz is at Nahant.

Mr. Parton is at Newburyport.

Mr. Aldrich is at Portsmouth.

Mr. Howells is at Jamaica Plain.

Mr. Stedman is at Newport.

Mr. Stoddard is at Nahant.

Mr. Taylor is at Cedarcroft.

Mr. Curtis is at Newport.

Mr. Bryant is at Roslyn.

Mr. Halleck is at Guilford.

Mr. Dana is at Cambridge.

Mr. Osgood is at Cambridge.

Mr. Fields is at Manchester.

Mr. Longfellow is at Nahant.

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OHIO NEWS.

About a week ago a man named Clark, stopping at the Leopold House, in Findlay, dreamed that he was falling, and actually jumped from a third story window. A broken ankle and some slight bruises were the only injuries he received.

The Mahoning *Vindicator* gives publicity to a remarkable case in Youngstown, as follows: About six weeks ago a married lady of this city gave birth to a child, remaining in a healthy condition until Saturday last, and then was delivered of a second child.

Sandusky is about to have an iron foundry.

Michael Bender was a teamster in Cleveland. He got drunk on Monday, fell under his wagon, was run over, and is no more a teamster for ever.

A party of young lads in Toledo got possession of an old shot gun on Saturday last, and amused themselves by exploding caps therewith. One of them, Charles Head by name, looked into the muzzle while another snapped the cap. The gun proved to have been loaded, and the charge entered the eye, and carried off part of his upper lip, knocking in the teeth of his upper jaw, cutting off his tongue, and lodging in the head above the palate. It is said he will recover.

A correspondent in Guernsey county, Ohio, writes: Mr. Bingham, who declined to accept a renomination for Congress, and Mr. Bingham replies: "I can only say that while I have not sought, and do not seek, a renomination, I shall not, if my duty to the party can be kept the attention of the people in the premises, which I shall not be."

The Hon. Thomas Ewing, Sr., is in very feeble health, aged eighty-four, at Lancaster, Ohio, and thither his daughter, Mrs. General Sherman, has returned to spend the season, at his special request.

On Saturday last a young man, named Christian Frantz, was caught in the machinery of a threshing machine, and completely disemboweled. He was living at last accounts, but cannot recover.

A HOUSTON, Texas, letter says the corn, wheat and Irish potato crop is made, and the yield of each is large. The prospects of the cotton crop

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1870.

THE COMMERCIAL—Mr. Isaac M. Wilson is an authorized agent for the daily and weekly COMMERCIAL.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

CONGRESS, 22D DISTRICT,
Major WM. H. KOONTZ, Pittsburgh.

CONGRESS, 23TH DISTRICT,
FELIX R. BRUNOT, Allegheny.

STATE SENATOR,
ALEXANDER WILSON, Wilkins.

ASSEMBLY,
ALEXANDER NIMICK, Alleghony.
RICHARD C. GRAY, Alleghony.
JOSEPH WALTON, Alleghony.
F. A. HUTCHINSON, North Fayette.
THOMAS PENNEY, McKeesport.
HENRY W. STRICKLER, ——

COMMISSIONER,
WILLIAM A. SHAW, Wilkins.

PROTHONOTARY,
GEORGE NEELD, Lower St. Clair.

CORONER,
JAMES MILLER, Allegheny.

JURY COMMISSIONER,
AARON FLOYD, Pittsburgh.

DIRECTOR OF THE POOR,
MINAS TINDLE, Kilbuck.

GERMAN AND FRENCH CIVILIZATION.

When hostilities against Austria were resolved upon by Prussia in 1866, the Prussian War Minister Von Roon declared the purpose of his government to show the world how war may be carried on humanely and in a manner worthy of a civilized people. In the short conflict which ensued the promise was, we believe, verified. During the present fearful contest a good deal has been said by each party concerning the measure of civilization disclosed by the acts of the other. Each has charged the other with the perpetration of deeds offensive to the civilized man. With reference to allegations of the kind whether made by Germans or Frenchmen, the neutral world some time ago learned the propriety of maintaining an attitude of skepticism, or at least of suspended belief. Under the excitement of the time the combatants and their friends naturally accept with excessive readiness injurious imputations against each other, believing the worst, and, assuming the principle—"from one learn all"—indulge in sweeping generalizations of which when peace returns they will easily perceive the defective logic. Even on this side of the Atlantic, the wholesale expulsion of the German residents from France appeared a measure of extreme and needless severity. In Germany it was roundly denounced as an act of mere barbarism. Though the order for the removal turns out to have been less absolute and comprehensive than it was at first represented, still vast numbers of innocent persons have been subjected to hardships which must move the compassion of the humane everywhere and which could be justified only by very urgent necessity. That such necessity may have seemed to exist in the present case we can easily understand, if we imagine ourselves in the position of the French. It is well known that Germans do not soon forget their fatherland; quite likely those resident in France, in the early stage of the war at least, made no secret of their sympathy for their countrymen. Then, in Paris alone these foreigners numbered a hundred thousand or more. The French army defeated and France invaded, the invaders advancing to occupy the great towns and lay siege to Paris; under similar circumstances the excitement concerning the German strangers certainly appears not unnatural. In a panic even the most enlightened people sometimes act like madmen, and it is much to be feared that in the reports of so many Prussian spies arrested and shot, we read of not a few frightful tragedies of injustice. Regarding the act of expulsion; in justice to the Gauls we must recollect that they have been made to believe by the statesmen of their countrymen in Germany. They were told how French people at the German watering places had been hurried out of the country by the agents of the Government with so little regard to order or convenience that many of them lost their luggage. They were also told how French women had been insulted in the streets of Berlin, and statements of the kind undoubtedly produced considerable impression in France.

It is quite likely that whatever foundation of fact there may have been for such narratives, was considerably exaggerated—and it is certain that all such acts were disapproved by the German leaders in the present war. Not the least interesting feature of the conflict is the manifest endeavor of the Germans to exemplify the superiority of their culture by the manner and spirit of its management. There is the highest authority to assert that one of the ends which they have in view is to establish their title to be considered as the leaders of European civilization. Hitherto that position has been confidently claimed by the French, and with whatever reservations and reluctance, the claim has been allowed by the other nations, though for some time many Germans have thought that the recognition was as much the result of the arrogant confidence with which it was assumed as of the validity of the pretension. Still in the mere age of its culture France has a great advantage over Prussia. Paris was splendid with elegance and refinement, hearing BOSSUET preach and reading the dramas of RACINE, when at (not in) the most fashionable church in Berlin after the close of the religious services on Sunday a dancing bear used to be introduced to afford an hour's entertainment to the audience, the clergyman included. Then from the place of Westphalia all over Germany the superiority of France was a thing disputed by no intelligent person. To be approved and in fashion everything must be French. As an old German writer quoted by FORNERON says: "French speech, French clothes, French dishes, French furniture, French dances, French music were all the vogue everywhere." This Frenchification began with the little courts, and gradually descended to the common people, who delighted to imitate the aristocracy. As soon as children could stammer a few words they were set to learning French—"offered up to the French Moloch," as the old writer says, and nothing delighted parents so much as to witness the process by which honest Germans were converted into Frenchmen.

When elegant literature first originated in Germany in the last century, one of the hardest tasks of its cultivators was to overcome the prevailing French taste. Everybody knows how a solid and in every sense admirable German culture at length arose and was diffused, entitling the Germans to a leading position among cultivated nations. But still the domination of France was only broken, not destroyed; in all matters of taste and elegance the ruling classes in Germany still render homage to the superiority of the French. Even German Kings and nobles do not dare set at defiance the decrees of fashion that issue from Paris, the center of the world's civilization. Since the present war began, FANNY LEWALD, a German authoress, whose age and fame entitle her to speak with a certain freedom and authority, has addressed a very eloquent appeal on this subject to the upper classes of her countrywomen. She expresses the opinion that their devotion to French tastes and habits has had much to do in nourishing Gallic arrogance into the extreme which it at last attained. She affirms that Frenchwomen could invent no fashion too shameless to be adopted by the opulent women of Germany. She charges them with studying manners and graces in loose French romances; with pluming themselves on their ability to mingle French phrases in their German talk; with undervaluing German literature while insisting that their daughters shall be able to jabber French. We report from memory a few only of the counts of the terrible indictment. Such deference for Gallic taste and manners, in the upper circles of German society, implies, of course, the recognition of Gallic superiority in social refinement. It yields the French the palm of ascendancy in civilization—of which society is the bloom. And we know as a fact that the proud people thus imitated are accustomed to regard the general study of their language and the adoption of their modes by other nations as an admission of their national superiority. Miss LEWALD trusts that one effect of the present war will be to inspire her people with a degree of self-respect and confidence in themselves which will render them more independent in the future. Undoubtedly considerable interest attaches to the conflict under this aspect. In such a consequence other nations may be interested quite as much as the belligerans. The superiority of German civilization and of German power being proved in the course and by the result of the contest, the rest of the world may begin to look to Germany as presenting those social models and refinements hitherto sought for in Paris, and as the German upper classes will naturally revert to and cultivate the simple, unadorned or unaffected ways appropriate to the country, all other nations may be benefited.

THE RAILROADS AND THE PUBLIC.

The railroad monopoly still takes a good share of the public attention, and the remedies proposed are nearly as numerous as the newspapers proposing them. All, however, seem united on one thing, that something must be done either through the National or State legislatures, or by putting wise and honest men into the management of the railroads. The last would be the best method were it practicable, but the trouble seems to be that men who are unimpeachably upright in all personal business act in the corporate capacity of railroad managers as if the public was their legitimate prey, to be bled in all ways, fair or otherwise. Such policy is extremely foolish and shortsighted.

A railroad may flourish for a time by draining the public of their means to pay freight and passage and by inconveniencing them at every opportunity, but the public is hungry and lasts longer than the road, which is sure to suffer eventually for the abuse of the people. Already some the agitation has begun which will teach them how to the railroads, unless they perceive the coming storm and avert it by forestalling popular legislation with wisdom not confined to them.

The people are the only friends the railroads have and once the long-suffering, enduring public get aroused against the railroads, all the alleged control of legislatures by the railway kings will be ended. What shape legislation will take cannot now be said; what is the best shape for it to take it is not safe to presume to declare; but the danger is, that if the oppressions by the railroad managers upon the people, once get into the hands of legislators elected for the purpose, legislation may go too far and oppress the railroads in their turn. Let the managers who are arranging for this consolidation and that; who are now cutting down freights and now crowding them up to exaction, thus forever unsettling regularity and soundness in business conduct; who are taxing the local business of the many, for the through traffic of the few; let these men remember their danger as they manipulate their millions in the stock market with some new scheme of consolidation and public oppression, and seek to avert it. The railroads, not the people, are in greatest danger from the future. The days that are coming are sure to bring protection and reparation to the public.

Our Southern friends should remember that, much as we at the North desire the success of southern Republicans and the triumph of the principles they are asserting men like Whittemore, or inclination like that of the Legislature of last winter in South Carolina, or Legislatures like that of Louisiana. If they are unwilling to credit us with any higher view of the case we beg them to comprehend that we cannot afford to take such men or Legislatures or inclination on our shoulders in a campaign.—*New York Tribune.*

Republican success in the future depends on dealing frankly and severely with the errors and follies of the past, and putting forth sincere efforts to avoid and reform them. Few—very few, we hope—are so short-sighted and have such loose ideas of morals as to hold that it is better to deny everything and "brave it through." They may attempt to do it, but the people will not follow them. We were beaten in North Carolina, not only by sins committed, but because of an attempt "brave it through," instead of admitting the truth and making a straightforward effort to make right what was manifestly wrong. And so will it be and ought to be everywhere. The leaders of the Ring in Allegheny county are acting on the "brave it through" policy, and they will be beaten. They may boast of their cunning in "setting up" conventions and "putting through" nominations, but the people will not support them or their candidates at the polls. Hundreds and thousands of the Republican voters in the county will act in the spirit of the extract given above. The party cannot afford longer to carry dead weights like the Ring, who "run" the party as a business, and make money by jobbing in the offices.

In the London *Saturday Review* is not mistaken England may yet play an important part in this war, rather after it is over, which it thinks will be about the first of November, when one or the other of the combatants will be whipped and both pretty well exhausted. It will then be the time for treaties, and the *Review* thinks there is reason to apprehend that Belgium may be affected to such an extent as to devolve on England an important duty. It therefore recommends that the volunteers be prepared for active service, and remarks "there is a much more serious future before them than at any moment since the volunteer movement commenced," and that within not a distant time this body of men will be called on to "redeem pledges which, given always with sincerity, have become somewhat conventional." For the emergency which the *Review* more than intimates is likely to happen, England is ill-prepared. Her army is totally inadequate to immediate serious business; though it is not to be doubted that she could in time put a large army in the field. To do this, however, the present system of offiering would have to be changed for one that would open the way to distinction on merit, and give the men a voice where now they have none. With her system thus liberalized, in time England would be able to play a spectacle part as to numbers, but in discipline her army would be greatly inferior to Prussia and even France.

Now that United States securities have stood the ordeal of the European war, and stand better than ever for it, we may count confidently on their future good and even improved standing abroad. It was fortunate, as it turns out, that the test was applied. Our standing is improved, and unless reasons growing out of the war prevent, Mr. BOUTWELL, on the restoration of peace, may reasonably count on being able to prosecute advantageously his funding scheme. Whether we pay the debt in thirty or sixty years, the faith is us will be all the same, so long as we keep within the bounds of reason in our legislation. It is our capacity to pay and still go on developing our resources, together with our demonstrated intention to keep faith, that makes our credit good. The idea of our paying within the shortest time has very little to do with it. It doubtless would be equally as good under a policy that contemplated a long day payments: and the experience of the past month probably might be studied to advantage by Secretary BOUTWELL, who still adheres to the idea of paying within the shortest possible term of years.

The Richmond *State Journal* is a Radical paper of the strictest sect. It has always stood on advance ground relating to reconstruction, not only in Virginia but all the South. It is, therefore, entitled to speak concerning the reverse which the Republican party has met and is destined still to meet in Northern States. Its calm and well-considered article on the subject. It ascribes these reverses to the usurpation of leadership and office by Northern interlopers—the real cause, as every man of fairness and intelligence must admit. We quote two sentences from the *Journal's* article, as follows:

> "We have failed to make Republicanism popular with the people, simply because its leaders have been Northern men who sought office for themselves. They came to our politics, and to force the people to accept Northern notions of Republicanism, and not the propagandists themselves. As well might you ask the people to force a Northern man to be a Democrat as well as a Catholic, as to insist that a Southern Republican should be a Northern man as well as a Republican.

A MASSILLON, Ohio, dispatch to the Cincinnatia *Gazette* denies that the coal miners strike in the Tuscarawas Valley is ended, and that the men agreed to go to work at eighty cents per ton. The citizens of Massillon held a meeting on Saturday evening, at the evil of the Board of Trade, and passed resolutions condemning all unlawful acts, whether committed by individuals, corporations or associations, any and every illegal or unjust interference of retaliation, secret or open; and especially any semblance of mob law upon persons and in the destruction of property.

DR. RIPLEY, writing from Stuttgart, says that the Germans have no faith in the superiority of the French weapons. In the recontres near Saarbruck it was noticed that after almost every shot, the soldiers took out the chambers from their chassepots and spit into them. This speaks badly for the arm, and it is generally believed that it has not yet been sufficiently tested. As to the mitrailleuse, he says it has no terrors for the Prussians, who believe the work is worse than its title.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The impression prevailed among the sailors of the French steamer *St. Laurent*, which sailed from New York on Saturday, that they would be called to the army as conscripts on their arrival in France. Great enthusiasm prevailed among them, and they seemed anxious to participate with their country men in the struggle towards the Rhine.

A company of forty French Canadians have arrived in New York for the Roman service to join the ranks of the infallible Zouaves of the Papal Zouaves to protect the Infallible Pope.

The French paper in New York, *Le Courrier*, which has hitherto been in the imperial interest, and was supposed to be partially supported by Napoleonic funds, has turned against the Emperor, and seems to hold him of but little account.

A correspondent at Mobile, an old factor, writes as follows: "With such good weather as we are now having, and a late frost, there will be plenty of cotton, and if the war continues prices will be ruinous both to planters and our factors, who have made large advances to planters on the coming crop."

The Comptroller of the Currency, before authorizing national banks for the new guaranteed territory act, in the Southern States, is making inquiry into the pecuniary standing of parties applying for these banks.

New Haven has now, including Fair Haven, upward of 50,000 inhabitants, and has gained nearly 33 per cent. in ten years. Hartford has less than 19,000, but has gained about the same percentage. Meriden has 10,000, and has gained nearly 50 per cent.; Middletown, including Middle field, has 10,000, and has gained 30 per cent. New Britain has gained 50 per cent., and now has 12,12. These five cities alone show a population of more than 125,000, and a gain of more than 30,000.

A Philadelphia paper says: The fall trade in dry goods in that city opens slowly, the Western and Southern dealers not coming in unusually light. What little business there is, is confined principally to the city and near trade and to small purchases to keep up supplies of assortments to meet the current demand.

The public are now permitted to know an important fact in connection with the Nathan murder, which has heretofore, for obvious reasons, been a profound secret, and that is the dispatch of one of the most experienced detectives to London, with a view of working up a clue which is supposed to have been discovered there.

The New York Gold Room appears to be chiefly under the control of the German bankers, a clique who evidently have arranged for the earliest intelligence of the pending struggle between Prussia and France, and they operate on the gold market with unusual promptness and decision. The news of a Prussian victory on Thursday was known to the clique several hours before its announcement in the street.

Aforevery robbery of coupon bonds there is a demand upon the Treasury for an exchange to registered bonds, which are rapidly growing in favor. There is now about $70,000,000 into registered bonds since January 1. It is remarked that by far the largest amount of the bonds purchased by Government are of the smaller denominations, some weeks the purchases being almost wholly made up of fifties and hundreds.

The English steamships which sailed for Europe on Saturday carried out among their passengers many German citizens, who, we were intending to join on their arrival upon the Continent, the Prussian army. The Europa, of the Anchor Line, with about 250 passengers in the steerage, sailed early in the morning, and the Caledonia in the afternoon. More than two-thirds of the passengers were Germans, strong and fine looking men. The City of Brussels, of the Inman line, sailed from Liverpool, taking about 300 passengers in the steerage and 15 in the cabin. Here, too, the preponderance of the German element was remarkable.

In ten years, under Republican rule, the bonds of Alabama have reached figures sometimes above, but never below par; against a sad depreciation when the Democracy controlled the finances. In South Carolina, too, a Republican administration has badly advanced the price of bonds, which only were quoted in January, 1868, to ninety cents at the present time. Such improvement in the financial standing of these states is the most flattering and impartial testimony to the good work done by reconstruction.

The accommodating Irishmen of San Francisco, having decided to massacre all the Chinese there in two hours on September 5, kindly permit a correspondent to advertise their intentions in ample time to prevent them from doing any harm.

The students of almost all universities of German Austria have joined in more than three-fourths of their number the North German army. The students of the same class in Austria are said to be intensely opposed to France.

By a new regulation for the French army, all corses is filled in the ranks. Instead of officers being left to rot, are, so far as practicable, to be carried to the regimental butchers and served out to the troops as meat rations.

The War Department refuses to accept the resignations of commissioned officers as there are no longer any superfluous officers in that grade.

While New York shows an increase in population, its extent is not so great as in Brooklyn and all the other suburbs, which have vastly increased since 1860.

Although there are no vacant clerkships in the Washington department offices, applications for appointments come in daily, and all the departments are as much worried as the Treasury which has five thousand applications on file.

There is a sharp competition between the overland lines to California and the Pacific Mail steamers. Both parties are cutting under and carrying freight for less than the cost to the opposition. Thus, while the rate of freight in several instances at three dollars per hundred pounds, and the steamship company has signed through bills of lading at two dollars per hundred for the same kind of freight. Comparatively few industrial fairs have to send freight from New York to San Francisco than from Chicago or Omaha.

The Richmond, Va., mills are now making two thousand barrels of flour daily, most of which goes to the Paris Exhibition.

Among the contributions that have already been sent to the Prussian Treasury for patriotic purposes are three large gold medals with a bust of the Emperor of the French, which were awarded to him for prizes at the Paris Exhibition of Paris. The value of each is about 3,000 francs.

The English interpretation of the names of German commanders are curious. For instance, Steinmetz means a stone-cutter; Falkenstein, the fowler's stone; Moltke, the bird of von Falkenstein—the bird of the falcon rock; Mantenfel, the man devil; and Eulenburg, the castle of owls. These names are Gothic enough for the most dark ages.

In striking a well for the Iowa Central Railroad, at Edora, Iowa, at a distance of ninety-three feet large pieces of wood were found, showing the existence of a timbered country down there ages ago.

The New Bedford people must be very forgiving and patient. A gentleman in that city is very ill, and four sections of a street have been boarded up to make the house quiet. Fences are not across where people are "comfortably sick," and recently, in the north part of the city, two sections were closed four weeks, because a woman had a very severe boil on her neck, which was possibly dangerous a few days.

Washington clerks living in the Western States are to have twelve days and those from the Eastern States eight days to go home to vote.

It is thought that in the event of Rome being left to the Romans the Pope will establish himself at Avignon, where they want him, and where the Popes lived from 1305 to 1376, although the offer of the English government to protect him on the Island of Malta will be first accepted in case of an invasion. The Mazzinists will be resisted, but it Victor Emanuel's soldiers move toward Rome IX. will find them in the State cars and engines, kept in constant readiness, to Civita Vecchia, off which place two English vessels are cruising.

The indignation excited among all classes of Protestants by the proposed papal ceremonies concerning the miracle of the Bleeding Sacrament, and the massacre of the Jews at Brussels in 1370, was so great that the Government was constrained to request the Archbishop of Mechlen to put his veto upon the proceeding.

On the New York Change, Monday morning, a Frenchman offered to bet that in sixty days, notwithstanding present appearances, the Garde Mobile must be hovering in Berlin. A Teuton near by said he would like to take him up if he was not afraid there was some catch in it. He did not doubt the Garde Mobile would be in Berlin; but it would not be as victors, but as prisoners of war.

The London Stock Exchange does not say "a ring," but "a syndicate" to designate a stock speculating confederacy.

There have been 2,486 new houses built in Brooklyn during the past year, the actual valuation of which is $12,000,000, and the assessed one on which is $5,592,200.

The New Albany *Ledger* says: "The estimated cost of the canal around the falls on the Indiana side, to enter the Ohio river at the lower end of New Albany, is $2,500,000. This is for a canal that would admit the largest sized steamboats. A canal for strictly hydraulic purposes could be built for half this sum, and would afford the finest water power in the world."

An order to defeat the parties who stole $12,000 of the bills unsigned, the Comptroller of the Currency has again cautioned the public against receiving bills and one hundreds of the First National Bank of Jersey City, New Jersey. The Central National Bank of New York City will redeem all genuine notes of these denominations as fast as they may be presented.

The French steamship Pereire arrived in New York on Monday in eight days and eleven hours from Brest, the quickest trip on record.

One of the war correspondents gives the following suggestive idea in a letter to the London *Times*: What a mass of moving iron there must now be in Western Europe. In cannon, rifle, sword, shot and shell, in bayonets and sabres, millions of tons of the martial metal were intending to join on their arrival upon the Continent, the Prussian army. The Europa, of the Anchor Line, with about 250 passengers in the steerage, sailed early in the morning, and sailed for Glasgow in the afternoon. More than two-thirds of the passengers were Germans, strong and fine looking men. The City of Brussels, of the Inman line, sailed from Liverpool, taking about 300 passengers in the steerage and 15 in the cabin. Here, too, the preponderance of the German element was remarkable.

The Danville *Intelligencer* is responsible for the following: "Attie Reeder, who has charge of the children's ward at the Asylum for the deaf and dumb, in this city, has a class of nineteen pupils, of which as few candidates for Congress ever had. He lives at the junction of McLean, Tazewell, and Logan counties, and near the corner of De Witt. His farm is in Tazewell, and Logan; his dwelling is in Tazewell, his barn in Logan, and the bulk of his crop in the latter. His school is in De Witt county, feeds his horse in another, plows with them in a fourth, and votes in the fourth, and will go to Congress from all of them.

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PERSONAL.

General Hovey, of Indiana, after being four years Minister to Peru, has tired of the place, found the salary inadequate, resigned, and will be home by September 1st.

General Tom Thumb and wife, Commodore Nutt and Minnie Warren, will soon leave Australia for the East Indies.

Four years after the Duke of Wellington's death £70,000 was appropriated towards a monument in his honor, but is not yet erected.

It is stated upon authority that the Princess Royal of Prussia sent her royal mamma a private letter containing a draft of the famous secret treaty which Victoria immediately supplied to the *Times*, which gladly used it as exclusive item of such a valuable character.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, August 27, 1870.

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DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION.

THE PEARL MILL IN RUINS.

Origin of the Fire—Rapid Progress of the Flames—Estimated Loss $275,000—Insurance $80,000.

One of the most disastrous fires which has ever been witnessed in this city occurred Monday night, resulting in the total destruction of the Pearl Mill, located on Liberty street, near Federal. The fire spread with the rapidity of a prairie, and half an hour after its origin the immense wooden structure was in a sheet of flames. An immense crowd collected, and all parts of Allegheny and Pittsburgh to witness the fire, and it was with the greatest exertion on the part of police in keeping them some distance from the building. Parties if the walls were constantly falling, and considering the great amount of timber present, it is a miracle that no one, so far as we could learn, was injured. The police force had a rope stretched around the burning edifice, and did all in their power to preserve order, and to prevent them from interfering in any manner with the firemen.

The building was an immense six story structure, and was one of the finest in the country. The main building fronted almost eighty feet on Locust street, and ran back to the old canal a distance of one hundred and five feet. This main building was attached to another structure, in the shape of an L, sixty by ninety feet. The fire originated in this building.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

On account of the many orders which were constantly coming in, the mills was kept running until nine o'clock on Monday night, and on night the men quit work about that time, and until the origin of the fire, which was at ten o'clock, Mr. W. F. Kennedy, one of the proprietors, the engineer, and a number of others were in the building. At ten o'clock Mr. Kennedy, who was in the fourth story of the building, discovered fire near the cleaning machinery. He immediately gave the alarm, and efforts were at once made to extinguish the flames. The hatching was well protected against loss by fire. In every story there was a fire-ping and a large supply of hose, and there was every convenience, in case of fire, so that a stream could be thrown in a few minutes after its discovery. A few minutes after Mr. Kennedy gave the alarm the engine was turned on, but unfortunately a section of the hose burned, which prevented water from reaching the fire. It had been for this circumstance the flames could have been extinguished without any great loss. The men then went down to the third story in order to turn off the hose there, but by this time the fire had gained such headway that it was seen that it would be no good.

In a short time the alarm was given in one of the vicinity, which was promptly responded to. When the firemen arrived, the flames were already bursting from the roof of the building which it originated, and was spreading with terrible rapidity. The streams from Fifth, Hand engines were also promptly on the ground, and in a very few moments after the alarm was sounded every engine in the city was in position and a stream of water from the fire, but it appeared to have no effect. The fire spread rapidly, notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen, and in half an hour building, and in about twenty minutes after the flames were seen bursting through every window in the third and fourth stories, and soon the entire structure was in flames.

PROGRESS OF THE FLAMES.

It now became apparent that the mill would be a total loss, and efforts were made to save the surrounding buildings, and efforts made to confine the fire to the building in which it originated. The heat of the fire was so intense that it was with the greatest difficulty it was prevented from spreading. The Anchor mill, located opposite the street, stood at one time in imminent danger, but was fortunately saved. The two first houses of Mr. Marshall's row, on Locust street, also were in danger, but, as a stream was constantly playing on them, they were prevented from adding fuel to the devouring flames. They were greatly damaged, however, by water.

LOSS AND INSURANCE.

Mr. Kennedy estimates the total loss at about $275,000. The loss on the building and machinery alone will reach $200,000. The latest improvements in machinery have been introduced, and the building was the most complete of its kind in the country. The loss on the stock is estimated at $75,000. The stock included 40,000 bushels of grain, mill feed, flour, etc. The insurance is only $80,000. We could not ascertain the companies, a few of which are in home companies, and the balance in eastern and Cincinnati companies.

The building was erected in 1852 by Bryan, Kennedy & Co. The firm then consisted of Wm. Bryan, R. T. Kennedy, John T. Logan and the Messrs. Childs. In 1857 Mr. Kennedy retired the building, and in 1865 he again interested with his brother purchased it. Since that time the firm has been known as Kennedy Brothers, and through their energy and business tact and honesty succeeded in gaining the confidence of the community, and built up a large business. The building was erected and the machinery put up at a cost of $80,000. Since that time the price of material and labor has so far advanced that it would require at least $200,000 to replace the mill.

The business of the firm has not increased to that limit their trade almost exclusively, doing 6,000 sacks of flour a week. Eight two horse wagons were constantly employed in supplying the home trade. This, however, did not comprise their entire business. Orders were constantly coming in from the east, and in order to fill these orders the mill was run until nine o'clock every night. Every night after the duty of the mill was 1,000 barrels of flour daily, and about forty workmen were employed.

From this it will be seen that the Pearl Mill was one of the best in the country, and Pittsburgh, in not only a loss to the proprietors, but to the community.

THE FIRE STILL RAGING.

At twelve o'clock, an hour or so after the scene of the conflagration, the fire was still raging, but there was no danger of it spreading, the firemen having it under complete control. At that hour only part of the wall of the main building, on the old canal bed, had fallen to the second story, and also two walls in the rear of the building. In the progress of the fire, a large number of men were engaged in removing the sacks of flour, but the flames made such headway, that a coach was soon put to their laudable work. About 1,000 barrels for fair to burned, how ever, were saved.

COMPACT OF THE RAILROAD KINGS.

New York and Erie, New York Central, and Pennsylvania Central Putting Up the Rates.

At a consultation of Jay Gould, on the part of Erie; Commodore Vanderbilt, on the part of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, and Colonel Scott, on the part of the Central Pennsylvania Railroad, a uniform rate of freights from New York to the West by these respective railroads was agreed upon.

The rates settled upon show a general increase charge about seventy-five per cent., and are shown in the following list of first-class freight prices adopted on the three roads, taking effect to-day:

	Per Cwt. Present	Former
New York to	Rate.	Rate.
Cleveland	$ 65	$ 32
Columbus, Ohio	77	40
Richmond	77	40
Indianapolis	92	47
Vanswville	92	47
Louisville, Ky	1 02	60
St. Louis, Mo	1 02	60
Quincy, Ill	1 07	60
St. Joseph, Mo	1 74	1 14
Chicago, Ill	1 02	60

The following are the rates by steam by way of the lakes:

	Present Rate.	Former Rate.
To Detroit, Cleveland & Toledo	65	32
To Chicago and Milwaukee	71	35

The fare for transportation of cattle from Buffalo to New York, which was reduced to $1 on for some months past at the competition price of one dollar per car load, has been increased to $1 00 per car load. The Erie and United States and American Express companies will not be parties to the reduction in their transportation contracts and privileges on the Erie and New York Central roads. These companies have been the great through express services. No advance has taken place in the price of Erie freights to the lakes and the west since last week, but may be soon expected.

BREAKING A BLOCKADE.

Venezuela Threatening War Against a Prussian Gunboat and the Diplomatic Corps.

White Prussian war steamers are anxious to break up the French blockade on the Baltic and the North German gunboat *Meteor* has broken up the Venezuelan blockade at La-guayra, and the diplomatic corps, the Consular Corps at Caracas were anxious to protect the property and interests of the citizens of their several countries, but refused will by the blockaders of Laguayra and Puerto Cabello, and orders from the Monagas Government of Venezuela. Accordingly the Diplomatists directed Commander Knorr, of the *Meteor*, to protect the vessels of all nations, and to prevent firing or sailing from Laguayra, with the exception of such vessels as sail under the Venezuelan flag, and to repel by force any attempt made to prevent vessels entering or leaving the port.

Having ascertained that the German steamer *Hapsburg* on July 26th, Knorr sent a note to the Venezuelan commander, notifying him of the diplomatic corps' instructions. The Venezuelan commander declined a written reply until he could communicate with his government, whereupon Commander Knorr sent a second note, saying, "As you have declined to take into consideration the action of the diplomatic Corps made known to you in my note of today, I hereby declare that I consider myself at liberty to act as circumstances may require, and demand that you lower your flag within five minutes from receipt hereof, otherwise I shall take your vessels by force."

The Venezuelan refused to lower his flag, declaring "that the Meteor must first fight with all on board before such a dastardly act should be committed." The Venezuelan vessel on preparing to fight the Meteor, but a parley was granted, during which Knorr said he would not hesitate to destroy every vessel attempting to run the blockade. The affair being reported to General Hernandez, the Monagas ruler, he sent a commissioner to confer with the authorities, and to represent to Commander Knorr that if he persisted in the attempt to run the blockade by government for the conservance of the peace of the Commander of the *Meteor* in opposing his efforts to suppress the rebellion.

A RECENT writer gives the details, for a long kept secret, of the method by which the fine Bonnie Scotch salmon are manipulated and prepared for the market. According to his statement the operator first immerses the sheet in a bath of dilute acid, until the black oxide all scales off, assisting the operation, if necessary, by a wire brush. The sheet is then removed from a sheet, it is immediately thoroughly washed in water, and water till the acid is taken off. After the washing and before the sheet has time to dry, it is pinged. Into a solution of arsenic which prevent the access of the sheet to the air, and its thus acquiring any oxide. A dozen of the sheets being in the solution, they are put together in a pack, and immediately rolled between rolled iron rollers having indented surfaces, till they are thoroughly polished. The sheets having been rolled till the desired lustre is obtained, are annealed in an annealing oven, in which the sheets rest upon rolls, which, when the sheets are properly annealed, can be pulled from the oven one at a time, the sheets dropped together in a pack at the bottom of the oven. The sheets are carefully and evenly heated till thoroughly annealed and till the desired color is attained.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, August 24, 1870.

The local money market is reported in an easy condition, and with few exceptions the banks are discounting freely all good customer paper. Very little outside paper, however, is accepted, notwithstanding the favorable condition of the market. This class of paper finds a good market through the brokers, who are placing great sums at rates commensurate with the standing of the parties who offer the securities.

Local stocks have not been so dull as now any time during the present year. There are few sellers of our prime dividend stocks. Holders allege that if they were to realize on their stock it would be difficult to invest the money as profitably.

—The changes in Government bonds to-day were trifling. The advance in gold being a greasy clique movement, bonds were little influenced by the rise.

Messrs. Ira R. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds to-New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Asked.	Bid.
U. S. Bonds '81	114½	114¼
U. S. Bonds '62	111¼	111
U. S. Bonds '64	111	110¾
U. S. Bonds '65	111½	111
U. S. Bonds, new, '65	111½	111
U. S. Bonds '67	111½	111
U. S. Bonds '68	111½	111
U. S. Bonds '10	105	104¾
10-40s	108	108½
Gold	112¼	112⅛

James T. Brady & Co., carter of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	112¼
U. S. 6-20s, 1881	112¾
U. S. 6-20s, 1862	112
U. S. 6-20s, 1864	111¾
U. S. 6-20s, 1865	111¾
U. S. 6-20s, 1865, new	111¾
U. S. 6-20s, 1867	111¾
U. S. 6-20s, 1868	111¾
U. S. 10-40s	108¼
Union Pacific Railway	97¾
Central Pacific Railway	97¾
Currency Pacific Railway	97¾

—Wall street markets to-day were dull in every department, except gold. It is thought that after the present season is brought to a close, and operations from their usual summer recreations, more activity will doubtless prevail. The principal dealings were in New York Central, Lake Shore, Wabash, and Northwestern preferred, though the flagging in each were trifling. In the miscellaneous list there was scarcely any business transacted, express shares being dull and steady, with the exceptions of American and United States, which were salable and firm.

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 89 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the call each day of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

August 24, 1870.	10 A. M.	11 A. M.	12 M.	1 P. M.	2 P. M.	3 P. M.
Central & Hudson	99	99¼	99¼	99¼	99¼	99¼
N. Y. Centralscrip	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Erie	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Reading	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Pittsburg	104	104	104	104	104	104
Illinois Central	134	134	134	134	134	134
Lake Shore	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Cleve. and Pitts	86½	86½	86½	86½	86½	86½
Northwestern	80½	80¾	80¾	80¾	80¾	80¾
do. preferred	86½	86½	86½	86½	86½	86½
Rock Island	113	113¼	113¼	113¼	113¼	113¼
Ft. Wayne	97	97	97	97	97	97
do. preferred	98	98	98	98	98	98
Fort Wayne guar.	90	90	90	90	90	90
Chicago & Alton	101	101	101	101	101	101
do. preferred	115	115	115	115	115	115
Adams Express	70	70	70	70	70	70
Gold	112¼	112¼	112¼	112¼	112¼	112¼

The Central Bank of this city announces their semi-annual dividend of five per cent., payable on demand.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue (Apollo Building), dealer in United States Bonds, State and City Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous stocks. Being represented in the New York stock Exchange, he can execute orders for purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular Board on the same terms as the New York brokers. Special attention to Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

WEEKLY MARKET REVIEW.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, Thursday, August 25th, 1870.

In our "walks and talks" among business men to-day we find trade generally quiet, firm, quiet and unchanged. The stock of the different varieties of merchandize is large and well-selected, and a heavy trade is anticipated when the fall season sets in. In order to be ready of coming preparation are heard, and all are fully prepared to meet any and every demand. Below we give carefully corrected price lists of the leading articles demanufactured and sold in this market:

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, August 24, 1870.

REMARKS—The market since our last has undergone no particular change as relates to prices or demands. The week now yesterday was very warm, the heat most of the time being very oppressive. Our rivers are down to low water mark, navigation being pretty much over until we have more water. Flour—The market was steady at $6 75@7 00 for No. 3 extra; holders are not inclined to make concessions in order to effect sales. The receipts have been light, still there is no scarcity. The leading houses have a good stock on hand. The mills are similarly situated. Bacon—the market was less active, prices being weaker, but they have undergone no change. We understand that the stock in first hands is not a large one tends to hold up the present prices.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks: They will be found useful for reference:

	Last week.	This week.
Flour, bbls	3,991	3,039
Apples, bbls	1,000	1,000
Cheese, bxs	1,940	755
Corn, sacks	2,736	3,053
Corn meal, sacks	1,750	1,000
Barley, sacks	190	1,000
Rye, sacks	100	100
Oats, sacks	8,449	5,133
Butter, pkgs	161	130
Bacon, lbs	78	226
Dried Beef, tierces	13	12

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted.

ASHES—The market was not very active, still there was a fair jobbing demand; prices have undergone no change. We note sales at the following: Soda Ash—Commercial, 3½@4c; Saleratus, 4½@5c. Caps, 7@7½c. Pearls 9@9½c ₱ ₱.

APPLES—In consequence of the supply exceeds the demand; the receipts since our last were 417 bbls. Sales were mixed at a variety of prices, ranging from $2 to $3 50 ₱ bbl.

BUTTER—As usual there was a good demand for fresh roll for table use, at prices that have ruled for some days. Choice to fancy roll is scarce. We can report sales at the following: Fair to choice, 25@28c; some lots held at higher figures; for store packed 20@22c ₱ ₱.

BEANS—Are selling in a regular way at $3 50@3 ₱ ₱.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, August 25, 1870.

REMARKS—The market yesterday exhibited but slight alteration from the previous day. The sales were moderate, though the offerings were not large. The principal transactions reported by large sales at the creek; sales reported of 200 bbls, and 1200 bbls asked. Crude in shipping order dessicated, with scarcely any sales. Refined in bulk, 27½c asked; in small way sales, 28½@29c. Benzine 17½@18c. Naphtha 17½c. Crude from exporters, and closed at 22c; sales of 1,000 bbls at 22c. Refined—The market for refined is first half for October at 26c, 1,000 to do last half September on private terms, and 1,000 do ₱ cent below what is bid. Sales 1,000 bbls at 26c; 1,000 do at 26c; 1,000 do at 26c; 1,000 do

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1870.

TERMS:

One copy, per year $2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

AN AUSTRIAN THEORY OF THE WAR.

An Austrian staff officer has contributed to a Vienna newspaper a rather interesting speculation concerning the war. There may be nothing particularly novel in the view, but it certainly serves to array and harmonize known facts with a not unsatisfactory result. According to this writer, in all his wars, LOUIS NAPOLEON has consistently proceeded upon certain principles easily discoverable. From the data furnished by the war in the Crimea and the Italian war, we may confidently infer the motives and purposes with which he entered upon hostilities against Prussia. The officer reminds us of the declarations so loudly, even ostentatiously made in Paris at the beginning of the conflict with Austria that it would be short, that the Emperor was animated by the noblest principles of moderation, and that the world would soon be amazed at the manifestation of his love of peace. As every one remembers, the world was taken by surprise upon the conclusion of the war so much sooner than had been anticipated. It was made, it was, at the earnest solicitation of the victor, who had weighty reasons for desiring its return. Though with one portion of his subjects he had re-established his influence by military success, another and very numerous portion were longing for revolution; a circumstance which made the release of the army from foreign service very desirable. A still stronger reason perhaps was the probability of failure in the farther prosecution of hostilities. After the defeats of Magenta and Solferino the power of Austria was still unbroken. Three full army corps were ready for action in Venetia. The terrible Quadrilateral had yet to be occupied. In the mere probabilities of war Napoleon could hardly count upon another victory in immediate succession, and knowing that even a partial success would be fatal to his authority in France, he wisely insisted on the re-establishment of peace. In like manner in the Crimea. The staff officer thinks that the capture of the south side of Sebastapol, of the Malakhoff and the Redan, was a trifle in comparison with the capture of the northern forts, which remained with the Russians at the close of the war. Dreading failure in the farther continuance of the siege, LOUIS NAPOLEON made propositions for peace which were excellent. Excellent cunning was again displayed by the Emperor when he closed the war even as he had begun it, for his own advantage. He fought that he might acquire the two-fold glory of a brilliant warrior and a brilliant peacemaker. By this method of the nephew the staff officer is reminded of the uncle, the first NAPOLEON. In 1812 after Borodino he longed for peace with Russia, and tried to make it still more earnestly when his army had entered Moscow in triumph. The officer who as courier reported to the Emperor ALEXANDER the retirement of the Russian forces from that city, was asked by his Majesty about the spirit of the troops. He said they were full of anxiety. "How?" exclaimed ALEXANDER, "Have they, too, lost heart?" "By no means," was the reply. "The troops are afraid that your Majesty will make peace with NAPOLEON before the enemy has been annihilated." Much relieved ALEXANDER said: "May my hand wither that subscribes peace with him." All who remember how the French withdrew from Moscow will admit that their commander's desire for peace in spite of his recent victories was wise. In view of the "NAPOLEONIC idea" thus illustrated the staff officer thinks that the plan of the present Emperor was not to wage a long and tedious war with Germany, but to gain one or two battles and then conclude peace even without extension of territory. By the mere humiliation of Prussia and by the recovery of the two military ascendancy the French people would have been satisfied, while the instrument of the triumph the Emperor would have been hailed as the restorer of the ancient glories of the nation.

Such is an outline of the speculation, which certainly looks plausible enough. The Emperor, relying upon the ancient reputation of his troops, may have expected to win a decisive victory over the enemy upon whom he had declared war, while he thought that only Prussians would be arrayed against him. In that belief he may have deemed his preparation sufficient. Before he left Paris, however, he knew that he had all Germany to meet, and the delay in beginning operations, for which all the world were puzzled, may have been a necessity imposed upon him to his own surprise. Trusting confidently in the neutrality, if not the alliance, of the South Germans, he may have expected a short war and an easy victory. Undeceived in that hope, he foresaw, as he declared, that the war would be tedious and obstinately contested, and was compelled to wait for more complete preparations.

GENERAL TROCHU AND THE ARMY.

A triumphant campaign of the French army in Germany might not have witnessed the elevation of General TROCHU. Though distinguished as a soldier and especially distinguished as combining a knowledge of details with skill in organization, he is not the sort of man most in favor with the Imperial circle. His appointment to the high and responsible position which he now holds is another illustration of the truth that in the midst of calamity, and when still greater evils are impending, all classes pay involuntary homage to moral earnestness. It is at once recognized as the attitude appropriate to the solemn time, as partly a habit formed by and resting upon the contemplation of distressing events as possible which have at length come. Audacity, the courage which does not count the enemy and does not admit the possibility of repulse, is the characteristic of the martial bearing most admired by the French common people. Perhaps boasting, hectoring ways are less offensive and less suggestive of vulgarity among them than among some other nationalities. The trait belongs to the Southern blood, and receives a certain warrant from the examples of dashing, splendidly romantic valor in which their history abounds. But they can appreciate quiet undemonstrative courage too, and when the quality is combined with strong intellect and lively conscience, their good sense teaches them to rely upon it as a refuge in the time of trouble. Every Frenchman, whether soldier or civilian, who has read General TROCHU'S book on the French Army, knows that all the disasters by which the nation is almost overwhelmed have been long ago contemplated by him as possibilities of the future. *He* did not enter upon the war blindly confident of the invincibility of the army. All the contingencies of the conflict must have been carefully weighed, and means by which the situation may be relieved, if not retrieved, must have been the subject with him of prolonged consideration. The small volume to which we have referred was a mere report, prepared at the solicitation of the War Department. Between the dullest and dryest subject becomes interesting when treated by a master, and General TROCHU'S report was soon found to be the book of the season, running through many editions in a very short time. It was, in fact entertaining to all persons of intelligence. In it the discussion is not confined to the mere details of organization and equipment. The diversified human element of the French army is subjected to thorough examination, and the causes by which its spirit is affected are deeply explored in the light of psychology and history. One passage in reference to this portion of his subject it is interesting to recall in view of present circumstances in France. English military men have often said that French soldiers are more injudiciously affected in their spirit than English soldiers in a reverse, and that continuous success is more necessary to the efficiency of the former than of the latter. Though General TROCHU makes no comparison, it appears that he attaches very great importance to the influence in question. The moral effects of great reverses he characterizes as fearful, and goes so far as to refer the disasters of the French arms from 1813 to 1815 to the low spirits of the troops caused by the memory of foregoing failures. Philosophical observations, he thinks, might have confidently anticipated the unfavorable issue of those campaigns. Long dissertations going into details of tactics and strategy have been written, and suspicions of treason have been entertained to account for defeats which are sufficiently explained by the deficient *morale* of the French troops. The campaign of Sadowa, the General adds, affords a still more striking demonstration of the same truth. "A great moral effect, the result of a great defeat, sufficed to annihilate the efforts of a whole brave army still very numerous and very imposing, and all the hopes of the nation and its Government." In future editions of his work, General TROCHU may refer to the recent and coming battles of the present war as additional illustrations of the same view. Undoubtedly a victory at first would have been more valuable to the French than to the Germans.

PLEASE COME TO THE POINT.

Party leaders long in possession of power uniformly come to have a contempt for the people and treat them as though they were wanting in comprehension. On no other principal can the course of our Ring leaders be accounted for. While they are shrieking all over the country, "Don't divide the party; stand by it!" they are laying their plans for bringing a second Republican ticket into the field, whereby the party will inevitably be divided. While pretending to desire the success of the party, they scout the appeal of Mr. WALTON for harmony, whereby only can we be certain of success. On every hand do we find the Ring acting thus inconsistently. Do they think the people are fools? Do they not credit Republican voters with discernment sufficient to enable them to perceive that while their leaders are shouting for harmony they are planning schism and defeat? Does not everyone perceive and does not everyone know for a certainty that what the Ring leaders mean is the offices, fat salaries, exorbitant fees? Not a word favorable to cutting down expenses and reducing taxes has escaped them, for the moment that is done they can no longer divide among themselves the tens of thousands of dollars which they now annually receive from the tax-ridden people. The Court House Ring have plenty of reasons for keeping things as they are. With a dozen salaries ranging from $3,000 to $30,000, they can afford to shriek from morning till night and night till morning "Stand by the party," when standing by the party means no more nor less than "*Don't touch our salaries and fees!*"

Now the Reform movement means the cutting down of these extravagant salaries and outrageous fees, and the saving of some tens of thousands of dollars every year to the tax payers,—and it is precisely for this reason that the officeholders' Ring are opposed to it. They know how devoted are the Republicans of Allegheny to their party and its principles, and have raised the *demagogue* cry "stand by the party," to blind them, as though everyone did not see right through it. Now we ask the Republicans of Allegheny: Do you think you can successfully stand by the party and at the same time stand by high taxation made necessary by the outrageous salaries and fees of the dictatorial office holders? Is there—can there be—any danger to the party in coming out squarely against high salaries, high fees, high taxes, and in favor of reforming the abuses which every man in his senses knows exist? *Do you think the party can or ought to succeed through high taxation, oppressive salaries, illegal and outrageous fees, insolent dictation by leaders, fraud in conventions, and the maintenance in power of a corrupt clique of office-holders?*

The Ring require you to answer and act in the affirmative. They denounce Mr. WALTON, they denounce everybody, for desiring Reform, and shamefully presume on the intelligence of the people by using the party lash to whip them into their support and the continuance to them of their plunder, under the pretense that it is necessary to do so for party success. It is this that is killing the party. It is only through reform, immediate and thorough, that the party can live.

Republicans of Allegheny, are not these things so?

We say: "Stand by the Party," and the way to do it is to stand by Reform. "Stand by the Party" say we, and at the same time stand by the right. The only way to stand by the party is by standing by Reform. It is false to pretend that the Reform Movement means anything but party integrity and the welfare of the people. Is there any one so blind that he does not see it?

MONEY VS. HEALTH.

The general public has a mutual interest with the doctors in ridding the medical profession of quacks and all incompetent and ignorant pretenders. But "the profession" in its zeal to exclude those whom it chooses to consider should not deal in its mysteries, sometimes sets up peculiar barriers. Now the allopathic medical colleges of the country have been trying since 1847 to obtain uniformity in different colleges as to the standard of education which entitles medical students to a diploma, and in respect to the fees charged by colleges for admission to their courses of lectures. Again and again have these efforts failed, and though a joint committee of the colleges and the American Medical Association in 1860 agreed upon a series of resolutions governing the matter, no college ever has lived up to one of them. But the time seems to have come when the profession is determined to insist upon a superior standard of education, and to require the payment of what are considered as high fees for attendance upon its lectures. As to an educational standard, that is right enough. But the "high fees" idea certainly needs a defense. So the address tells us that "small fees, as a rule, do not offer an inducement to men of superior ability to act as teachers, but even if by endowment or State aid a college is able to pay good salaries to competent teachers, it does not follow that the fees for instruction or be content with a class of pupils who will neither be a credit to their *alma mater*, nor a benefit to the community." If all the colleges should adopt this plan they would completely shut out from the study of medicine the men who succeed best in it. Because a young man is poor has he no right to attend lectures and fit himself to be an M. D.? Will the public be better served by excluding poor people from the medical schools as a class of pupils who will not be a credit to *alma mater*? Suppose that an institution, by reason of State aid or private endowment, is mainly independent of scholars' fees for the support of its professors, and is enabled to provide the best of lecturers—is it right to demand of it uniformity in charges with another school, having enough rich students able to pay high prices to no better professors? While free schools have made education possible to every man, enough to justify medical schools in a high and uniform standard of admission, nothing has yet developed to make every bright and intelligent young man rich enough to pay such fees as the Louisville doctors would have all schools ask. We will venture that there will be as many, if not more, ignoramuses to the hundred among the pupils who can pay big prices, as among those who seek low priced instruction from endowed professors. Besides, as knowledge of medicine and surgery should be the only test of a doctor, it is impossible to see what pecuniary qualifications have to do in the question.

Whatever the result of the war may be, what the kind or time of peace, the nations of Europe will have been taught an important lesson, to wit: that Prussia's military system is vastly superior to any other, and one that is more likely than any yet tried to find the nation adopting it prepared both for aggressive and defensive warfare. A nation whose entire male population at the age of eighteen goes into the army, to remain three years, and for a certain time each year thereafter until exempt by age or otherwise, whose system of education, the life of whose population, without distinction, is in a sense one of perpetual military training, cannot be otherwise than a martial nation. A citizen there is a soldier; and the reserves which Prussia is bringing up to the conflict in immense numbers, at the present time, are soldiers, not conscripts, such as France is sending into the field, and such as any other nation but Prussia would be compelled to employ under similar circumstances. Now, it is this system which the other nations will have to adopt, if they can not invent a better, or acknowledge the superiority and supremacy of Prussia. We say that this much has already been taught by the war. It is quite amazing that France should have made the mistake she did in not knowing the Prussian system and appreciating its superiority as compared with her own. It was this system that found Prussia prepared. Notwithstanding the boasts about her preparedness, in which France had for so long a time been indulging, she was actually not prepared for a war of anything like the dimensions of that into which she rushed. It may be said she counted on defection in Southern Germany. Such an excuse would only be playing off one blunder against another. At the present moment we find Prussia sending real soldiers to support the advance to Paris, while France is only able to reinforce her shattered armies with conscripts and volunteers, whose zeal—which, however, is not greater than the Prussians'—will fall far short of making up for what they lack in military training. The actual state of the case fitly illustrates the military systems of the combatants; and it is this that must impress strongly the other nations of Europe.

Ring politics are the same everywhere. Men who make a living by running party machinery are peculiar to no section. The worst of it is that they are fast getting the rest of the community into their power. Year after year taxation is getting worse and worse through their operations for running up local expenses, and it is only occasionally that anybody minds it. Were it not for the determination to throw off these political blood-suckers manifested now and then, as in Allegheny county at the present time, one might safely come to the conclusion that the community were fond of having their blood sucked, and their taxes put up by jobbery and every sort of swindles. There are healthy signs in different quarters, indicative that the limit of endurance has been pretty nearly reached, and that universal revolt will only be looked for. From an article in the Philadelphia *Record* we quote the following, which goes to show that things are working there:

> "We can go into our city councils and find plenty of members without any visible means of support, who live on the fat of the land. Yet we give our councilmen no pay. We can go to Harrisburg and find men who live fast, and in spending where the legislature is not in session, yet per rich on one thousand dollars a year. We make the Governor and Cabinet live on less than even worse—senators and members rioting in extravagance and drifting in wealth, barter and sale, selling the people's property and rights for lucre. Can any government endure long under such profligacy and corruption? Let the citizens of Philadelphia reason for the future, and by withdrawing from the political tempters at home, and, perchance, this will be the means of saving the City and States to go to the ballot box and do likewise."

It is said that German bankers in New York scout the idea of a short war if peace depends on anything short of Prussia carrying her points completely. This view confirms the suspicions we have had that the French nation, whatever the fate of the Emperor, which cannot be said to be doubtful. The French are fighting without regard to him. He has ceased to be the central figure in the great drama. The French people, roused by his blunders, are carrying on the war, and they will continue to do so in a manner that forbids the idea of an early peace, unless, indeed foreign intervention puts an end to the strife, of which there is no immediate prospect. Prussia, on the other hand, will push through to the end, and a bitter end, it is evident she is fully determined it shall be to France, cost what it may in time, money and men. If it is a question of endurance and resources, she feels herself fully equal to the task. If it is one of military skill and daring, victorious, she is able to point to the events of the past three weeks as proof what she can do. It is this view of the question that is taken by the German bankers, it is said, and on it they are said to be risking their money.

The evident feeling of satisfaction with which the European nations witness the humiliating process which France is undergoing, is unmistakable. Not a finger has been raised not a word uttered by them in her behalf, although her condition calls loudly on her friends, if she has any. This is likely to continue down to the time when Prussian exaltation must be repressed, which will be about the time they reach Paris. By the way, a special dispatch from Carlsruhe to a New York paper contains a statement of the demands of the King of Prussia, which we find nowhere else, and which may as well be received with much allowance. They are—first, that he be declared Emperor of Germany; second, that the Province of Alsace, together with the city of Strasburg, be given to the Grand Duchy of Baden; third, that Bavaria receive full money compensation in consideration for her services and expenses in the war; fourth, that NAPOLEON III be deposed, and that an Orleans prince be placed upon the throne of France.

The favor which the Pope is showing the Prussians will probably bother a good many persons who have taken largely of French stock, in the belief that in that direction were the Pope's sympathies and interest. Perhaps at first they were right, but appearances are not so now. A Florence letter assures us that the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome was followed by loud and emphatic denunciations of the Emperor, and that the Pope himself was moved to expressions more vigorous than friendly. If ever there was the slightest ground for regarding this as a war of religion, that is, between Protestantism and Roman Catholicism, the idea has been dissipated. The Catholics of Germany are the most loyal of King WILLIAM'S supporters, and their support will not be rendered less effective by the evident sympathy of the Pope with Prussia. The principle embarrassment in the case is by those who took the French as the Catholic side of the question.

Mail accounts of the early stages of the war, wherein is detailed the French plan of operations and are set forth the grand expectations concerning early results, not the least of which was the crossing of the Rhine, the invasion of Prussia, and a steady victorious march to Berlin, give us some idea how great have been the Prussian successes. Writing from Strasburg, one correspondent says: "The MACMAHON'S departure with "fifty thousand men, eight batteries of ten guns each, and four batteries of mitrailleuses, ten of these fearful weapons in each battery, a battalion of those terrible Turcos and a heavy supporting squadron of cavalry, front, flanks and rear." He marched out, but it was only in a few days to meet the Crown Prince, before whose terrible onslaught this force melted away like snow, less than fifteen hundred French men making good their escape back wards two-thirds the distance from Strasburg to Paris. Our "on to Richmond" bears no comparison to the "on to Berlin" by the French, which henceforth will be the synonym of great disasters.

In view of the probability of a "long war," and the possibility that other nations may become involved, the financial condition of Europe becomes a matter of no little interest. The aggregate debts of England, France, Russia, Austria, Italy, Spain and Prussia amount to near $12,000,000,000. That of England is about a third of the whole, or near $4,000,000,000; that of France near $3,000,000,000; of Russia, over $1,200,000,000; of Austria, over $1,300,000,000; of Italy, near $1,100,000,000; of Spain, over $800,000,000, and of Prussia, more than $200,000,000. Taking the debts of the other States of Germany, the whole German indebtedness would amount, probably, to near $400,000,000. It is not difficult to perceive that a general war would mean little less than a general bankruptcy. It is curious to observe that Germany is not only in a more favorable situation than any one of the other powers in a military sense, but is vastly better off financially.

R. R. Butler, member of Congress from the First Tennessee District, has been proceeded against for frauds on the Pension Bureau. The offense is criminal, and the proof is said to be abundant. It will be safer to "go it" on Butler for this crime than it was to push the cadet selling members of Congress. That thing was stopped when it was found out how general was the crime. After making an example of Whittemore and "spotting" some others, Congress withdrew from the task. To push the business to the legitimate conclusion there was not the courage. For instance, a dozen or fifty members of Congress might have been proven as bad as Whittemore. Whatever the number, when they had been properly disposed of, another question, scarcely less important in every moral aspect, would have come up, to-wit: have members of Congress sold for money indorsements of applications for office at the Departments or White House, when it was known that such indorsements would secure the offices? Into this question it is perfectly proper that an inquiry should be made. If members of Congress have been in the habit of selling indorsements of applications for office, and if heads of departments and the President have made appointments pursuant to recommendations of this character, the fact should be known. It is reported that such things have been done, and that heads of departments and the President have been made parties to transactions every way disgraceful; except that they were innocent of fraud, being outrageously imposed on by money-making speculating Congressmen, as corrupt as Whittemore. We say that, had inquiry into the cadet sales been pushed, the next step would have been to take the criminals next in grade. This is past hoping for now, but we my hope and do believe that heads of Departments and the President will in every instance in which it can be shown that appointments have been made on the purchased indorsements of Congressmen, summarily dismiss the appointees from office. This can be tried at least.

England has very recently withdrawn from Canada, Australia and other of her colonies and military posts about fifteen thousand soldiers to strengthen her army at home, which will thus be increased to something like fifty thousand men, nearly half of whom are needed to hold Ireland in subjection. With the exception of her navy, the military establishment of England is little less than contemptible. While this is the fact, however, let the occasion once arise, and the English character and capacity for defending the nation or resenting a wrong, would be fully demonstrated, though not, perhaps, without a period of delay. It is evident that England is not intending to take any prominent part, except to keep out of the quarrel war. How to do this with honor is taxing her statesmen.

How feeble are human attempts to look through the financial millstone! When war was declared everybody was certain that we were to be seriously affected by the return on us of untold amounts of American securities. There was a general preparation to receive them and stand as best we could under the new emergency. How little we knew what would happen, and how feeble our capacity to look into the future and estimate the consequences of events, is significantly illustrated by the announcement that "the transmission of United States five-twenties to the New York market from England and the Continent has almost entirely ceased, and the quotations on the other side have been so decidedly strengthening for a week or ten days past that an early reversal in the course of the remittances of United States five-twenties is not improbable."

The "organ" has already announced that certain things are sure to take place in the Ring Convention. We will not question its authority, for we are ready to believe that the Ring leaders have so far "fixed things" as to justify the announcement. We will suggest, however, that it would have been better policy to withhold a boastful announcement which proves that the leaders have either lost their cunning or are indifferent to the suggestions of ordinary wisdom. The engineers, at the very least, should permit their followers to believe that they still have some share in making nominations. It may be an easy matter for the Ring to insure a nomination, but after that come the people, and it may be fairly questioned whether a nomination which a decided portion of the party will under no circumstances ratify, might not, with propriety, have been less boastfully proclaimed in advance.

It continues to be announced by leading papers that the Pennsylvania Central is included in the Erie and New York Central consolidation. Although this was the original announcement, we understand that such is not the fact. On the contrary, the arrangement entered into by the Erie and New York Central is practically opposed to the Pennsylvania Central, which will have to "go it alone" or seek new allies. Would it not be funny to see the heads of the Pennsylvania Central and the Baltimore and Ohio in bed together? But the Baltimore and Ohio don't run to New York, the great center of trade. Why not "hitch" there and take the Internal coal-carrying roads and Baltimore, and let New York whistle?

The Chicago *Tribune* concludes an article on "the Republican party in the South" with the remark that "the carpet-baggers and their supporters at the North, in the endeavor to crush out every spark of manliness and every memory of the past among the Southern people, have done more to defeat Republicanism in those States than the Democratic party could have done in a generation." And certain numbsculls and blind bigots construe this statement of glaring fact into treason to the party and General GRANT'S Administration. The fact, however, that no one in the world is more impressed with its truth than General GRANT. In going into the South for Attorney General he signified as much.

Eight murderous assaults in New York City and vicinity on Saturday and Sunday last speak for a pretty large subscription to an excise law neglected and trampled upon and a recklessness of human life unchecked by any fear of punishment. "Temporary insanity" for rich criminals and political assistance for rough criminals have managed to destroy most of the little force once enjoyed by law in the metropolis. But if the people whose own lives and property are thus made insecure don't care enough to combine to put just men into office and to help them afterwards in punishing rascals, we can't see that they deserve pity if they are robbed and murdered.

If the two armies are not engaged in a race to Paris, what is the situation in any military sense? The Prussian right and center have been endeavoring to detain the French left and center between Metz and Verdun, while the crown Prince pushed on to Chalons, and thence to Paris. The Prussians claim that they have been successful in so detaining the French. The latter claim that they have not, and that the retreat is still going on. Which ever statement be true it is now certain that the Crown Prince is nearer Paris than the main body of the French army, and that he seriously threatens the Capital.

The *Herald* nominates Senator Howe, of Michigan as Minister to England. The chances are that Mr. Motely will remain at his post for a time yet. First class Diplomats are extremely scarce in this country. Why not perhaps Mr. Sumner might be persuaded to go, Gen. Butler would probably consent to take his place in the Senate; but what would we do for a "great American" to send to Paris. Perhaps General Nye might consent to play the role until Mr. Sumner returned.

It costs less to govern Cincinnati than it does Chicago, on the Boston scale because. Thus Cincinnati, under the new decennial appraisement, will have about $138,000,000 real estate and $75,000,000 personal property; total, $213,000,000. Chicago in 1869 had $200,000,000 real estate, and $50,000,000 personal property; total, $250,000,000. The assessment for 1870 will be about $280,000,000. As each city taxes at the rate of fifteen mills, Chicago government costs $1,200,000 per year, against $4,025,000 in Cincinnati, an excess of $175,000.

In the New York markets, while the early crop of fruits was remarkably large, brought out by a mild winter and early, genial spring, the scorching, rainless summer interfered sadly with the later crops, and the business in the grain and ore trade. The new barge fleet this year is in a gloomy condition, and the losses of dealers will be enormous. Thousands upon thousands of dollars have been lost so far by spoiled fruit.

The New York merchants are looking forward with much confidence to a wholesome fall trade. It is said also that business there is again reviving from the depression usual during the hot season, and which the financial condition of the country has this year made very much greater. The harvest hands are preparing for large sales, and evidently expect the fall trade to begin early and actively.

A Republican consultation at Saratoga is reported to have resulted adversely to the policy of Mr. Greeley's nomination for Governor. The "rural districts" distrust the city, though they think well of H. G.

It is reported that the New York detectives are on the track of the Nathan murderer, by way of Saratoga. But they have several times been on the "right track" without finding anything.

DICTATION OF THE RING.

Mr. Walton's manly card, though received with approbation by the great body of those to whom it was addressed, has aroused the ire of the *Gazette*. The editor differs with Mr. Walton, not on principles, nor upon his official conduct, but merely upon the editor's own notions of party discipline to which everybody must conform or be summarily cast out of the Republican organization. Thus this Thersites of journalism cracks his whip, admits the raising of nequestions of reform or purification, and peremptorily demands slavish submission to his own edicts without a murmur or a wry look, the penalty being sentence of banishment contumeliously decorated and expressed.

To an impartial observer, the *Gazette* appears to be more intent upon self-aggrandizement than anxious for continued Republican ascendancy. It appears to be more actuated by jealousy and hatred than by disinterested views. Its rule of conduct looks to be to oppose the Commercial rather than to advance the principles of its party, though it professes to believe that the prevalence of those principles are essential to the public welfare. With an eye single to its own selfish schemes, it listens to no prudent counsels, and sneers at the voice of warning which admonishes it to keep together and set the procrustean discipline with which it would govern or destroy. Its folly is equal to that of Napoleon in making war upon Prussia because he would not exercise the right of choosing her own ruler

It is not rational to presume that a great party composed of intelligent members will submit to be dragooned into their ranks by an upstart martinet and keep step to such discordant notes as he may dictate to regulate their movements. Who clothed the *Gazette* with infallibility? Who, indeed, should appoint it to itself supreme authority to write out and enforce the Republican canons of discipline? If such presumption is sustained, none but the odious and detested will be left to support editors of this would-be dictator, will be permitted to transact the public business, whilst men, like Mr. Walton, possessing energy, resolution, self-respect and indomitable perseverance, will be thrust aside. Is it probable that such a degraded state of things can be established in Allegheny county?

In the particular case of Mr. Walton, whom the *Gazette* would ostracise, not for incapacity or lack of fidelity in office, but because he does not denounce every one disagreeing with its particular notions of usage and discipline, a more useful and efficient representative could not be found in Allegheny county. The great interests involving the continued growth and prosperity of this community, are shared in by him through his personal concerns, which constitute a double pledge in his case, should demand it, for the exercise of the most untiring activity in their prosecution. To lose such an irreproachable representative, so able and ready to serve, placed above corrupting influences by fortune, the result of his own diligence and judgment in business, stimulated to unusual exertion for the public good by sharing in its greats essential to it, through mere self-interest, is a calamity which we are just now to admit as a possibility. The good sense of the people will most assurredly prevent it.

NAVIGATION AND RAILROADS.

From all appearances the drst bit of British America that "inevitable destiny" is likely to take is the United States, is the region of the Red River of the North, through it must be confessed that the people of the Dominion of Canada are making rapid strides toward representation in the Senate and House of Representatives at Washington. Riel's fiasco has doubtless terminated in an attempt at a closer political union between the Red River country and the Dominion, but unfortunately topography interferes with that. By land and water, by railroad, steamboat, forest trail and bark canoe, it is farther from Ottawa to Fort Garry, through British possessions, than it is from Washington, by United States, to Fort Garry. Not in actual distance, maybe, but in time and in facilities for travel. To get around this difficulty some enthusiastic Britishers have proposed to build a railroad from Ottawa to the Red river and on through British territory to the Pacific. Imagine a railroad through the rough, wintry and almost tenantless country north of Lake Superior. It would certainly be a most wonderful display of English engineering, for it would be the most expensive work yet attempted and would not breed a station oftener than every five hundred or one thousand miles. The line enthusiasts only one avenue of communication between the people of Riel's late dominion and the civilized world, and that is on the United States side of the Red River valley. As we said above, topography interferes with Canadian schemes and is the strongest ally of American annexation.

The Philadelphia papers can't get over feeling good that the census is likely to enumerate more residents within their municipality than New York can counton Manhattan Island. Indeed Philadelphia deserves to grow, for poor people there have room enough for their own homes, with plenty of air to breathe and water to enjoy, without being crowded into rookeries of tenement houses. The *Inquirer* says the building business continues active, and the number of new buildings for dwelling houses, factories, stores, and other purposes will be larger than it was last year, when fifty-five hundred and three entirely new buildings were added to the city, and over eleven hundred altered and enlarged.

In the last ten years there were erected in Philadelphia "thirty-seven thousand nine buildings, of which twenty-three thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine were dwelling houses, five hundred and forty-five were stores, five hundred and twenty-four factories, and fifty-four foundries.

"Thus Philadelphia has gone on and on, stretching out her streets in a constant invasion of the fields of the country, and making tids, not only in the territory within our bounds, but in the actual number of buildings used for habitations, manufacture, business and other purposes, the largest city in the United States."

A curious instance, illustrative of how a controversy may long remain dormant, while never dying out, comes to pass in the recent renewal of the dispute between the Bank of England and the Bank during the Crimean war. In the bill to consolidate the public debt, as drafted by the Bank's Counsellor, the chancellor of the Exchequer made some alterations, so as to make the law correspond with the present practice adopted by the Treasury in providing for the discharge from the national debt, "of placing at the disposal of the Bank of England a portion only of the dividends on the day on which they fall due, leaving the remainder to be provided on a future day."

This the bank objected to, virtually calling the Treasury custom a violation of the law, and saying: "The bank is still advised that the provisions now in force relating to the national debt, require that the whole amount of the dividend falling due should be issued from the Exchequer, and placed at the bank at the disposal of the stockholder on the day on which the dividends fall due." The bank having consented to the change, if the Government would acknowledge its error, the custom has been made law and the standing controversy put an end to it.

Among the multitude of murders constantly occurring in New York city there is occasionally one worth speaking of as this distance, either for the prominence of its actors or victims, or for its peculiar barbarity. Peculiar barbarous was the murder of Thomas Mee, on the day of murderer John Real's funeral. Shea was a bar-tender, and on that Sabbath, with no fear of the Excise Law before him, furnished drinks to crowds of men on the streets to see the funeral of Real, whom drink had driven to crime. Two of his customers and Shea were quarreling, the dispute having arisling in regard to Real's execution, when Herbert Munday, a friend of the latter soon and had been drinking beer, rushed in and thrust a broken broom handle into the bar-tender's eye. Here was another result of making Real a martyr by his execution and it also served to show that neither the papers nor the police can tell the full story of the crimes of the metropolis. Nothing was said to the murderer and the wounded man died next day for by a private hospital until his death on Tuesday last. It was only on Monday last that Shea's father notified the police, but Munday, the murderer, had flown, and thus the tale of another whisky slaughter is told.

For the Americans residing over seas to celebrate the Fourth of July among themselves as best their numbers would permit, has long been customary, but Dr. Rea, United States Consul at Belfast, Ireland, on the last anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, threw open the festivities to all the people, and for the first time Irishmen in Ireland celebrated the national day. The demonstration took place at Dr. Rea's residence, at Beechcroft, Hollywood, and were numerously attended. The "Star-spangled banner" floated from the Union Jack staff, and appropriate sentiments were served, and fire-works were exhibited, all in brilliant style. To make the affair seem homelike to the Americans present, the Rev. D. Magill, L. L. D., made a long speech to the toast, "The President of the United States," and other gentlemen made speeches to toasts of "Queen Victoria," "France," "Austria," "Prussia," "Italy," "Spain," &c., as well as to gentlemen present, and all concluded that America's a fine country and the Fourth of July's a nice occasion, worth repeating. These things are gather from a report in the Belfast *Northern Whig*, furnished by a friend of the Commercial.

The days of sail vessels in the lake trade seem likely to be soon numbered. Steam towed barges within two or three years have almost entirely driven the use of canvas out of the lumber trade, and if the success of the new grain barge, G. D. Ruiseli, just arrived at Buffalo, on her second down trip, is to be a criterion, the same result will soon be witnessed in the grain and ore trade. The new barge is built so as to be entirely seaworthy and able to ride out any storm even when cast off from the propeller towing her, and which also carries a grain cargo. Economy is the most striking advantage of the new system. The entire fuel expense for the down trip is less than the tug charges for towing an equal amount of sailing tonnage through the St. Clair and Detroit rivers. When the charges for towing at the upper ports and at Buffalo are added to the extra expense for hands and the cost of maintaining the extra canvas and rigging, it will be seen that a large saving is effected by steam towing through the entire trip. The Buffalo *Courier* suggests that "the next steps will be to build the barges and propellers out of iron with water tight compartments."

We are informed that at a picnic to be held at Mansfield to-day, all the "ring" candidates for office, from the position of Coroner to Senate, will be present, for the purpose of making their peace with the good people of Mansfield. They have all been invited, and assurances given in each instance that the candidates will be present.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A gentleman of Stamford, Conn., is raising a crop of cotton with every prospect of success. It is not very extensive, but it illustrates perfectly the tropical nature of the present summer, even in the cool shades of bleak New England. The seed of this cotton was sown in a hotbed in April, and the plants were set out about the middle of May. The flowers appeared long ago, and the bolls are already fully formed. More promising cotton cannot now be seen in Georgia.

In Philadelphia there is an unusually large number of dwellings all over the city, but especially in the northern section of it, for sale and to rent. There has been some decline in both rents and prices of almost all sorts of real estate, except, perhaps, in a few peculiar cases, and especially those dwellings ruling at high figures.

Another ninety-nine year lease has just expired in New York, and as the property is worth no less than $82,000 000 the heirs of Robert Edwards, the lessor, are desired to appear, prove heirship and dispossess the lessees.

The Memphis *Avalanche* learns something in a private letter from Helena, that's passing strange, if but true. Five respectable and fast young men enjoyed themselves together one night and had a merry parting, but when they awoke next morning in their several apartments, not one of them could hear a sound. When they met and found the cause of sudden affliction was common they were alarmed, and four sought medical treatment in New Orleans and one in Memphis.

At Paw Paw, Ill., recently, lightning changed the shape of the copper lightning rod from triangular to a perfect octagon, from the eaves to the ground.

The Portage Lake *Gazette* says the Lake Superior country is full of great bogs, which will yield an immense amount of fuel if properly worked.

The Mormons are turning their attention to the manufacture of kid gloves. Those made are said to equal French gloves in beauty and delicacy of finish.

Lithofracture has been tried in the Missouri iron mines, and besides breaking large blasts of ore into small pieces it saved thirty per cent on labor.

A few days ago at Marion, Ky., while Miss Millie Turnour, of Noyes' Crescent City Circus, was performing on the trapeze, a rope broke, precipitating her to the ground, and inflicting injuries which will probably prove fatal.

A gentleman who has been traveling for some time in Catiaas Valley, Oregon, informs a Douglass county paper that while exploring the mountains in that vicinity, he discovered a wall upon the top of one of the mountains. He says it was built with great care and precision; that it was composed of square slate rock, neatly cut, and was about twelve feet long, and was, in some places, about two feet high. He could find no trace of slate rock in the vicinity, and the fact of its being interlaid with a hard substance resembling red clay, leads one to suppose that it is the work of man. No one in the vicinity knows of the wall, whereabouts, and it was by mere accident the explorer discovered it, so thickly was it enveloped in brush.

The latest prison breaking dodge was perpetrated by a Mr. Bullivan, a French count, in the Maryland Penitentiary, the other evening. Having prepared and placed at the cell-door a long figure, straw-stuffed, with a papier mache face and a hat and coat on the head of the same, the warden collects on his first nightly round, he climbed over the walls with a rope. His ticket was duly collected from his "dummy" and nothing is noticed, until after some time the alarm was given, but too late.

It is suggested that the Indians be colonized upon the Bad Lands of Dakota, where everything petrifies, even birds as they fly over the region drop stone dead. The theory is that the large supply of Indian bones in the vicinity signs would be provided, while also settling the vexed Lo question.

A writer from Cheyenne, has a curious theory to account for the beautiful canyons of the Rocky Mountains. He says: "Our theory of the production of these singular stones is that of photography, executed by nature in her own laboratory and gallery. If the subject is closely examined, it will be observed that instead of moss it shows a minute but perfect copy of the sage bush. In the region where found moss is very rare, while the entire surface is covered with a thick growth of sage. If man with chemically prepared paper and other substances, can reproduce images by the refraction of light, why, then, is it impossible for nature, substituting reflected rays through the agency of the clouds for the camera, to reproduce in her own gallery minature photographs of surrounding objects? It is reasonable and plausible, and we beg to suggest that some philosopher take the matter in hand and work it out.

John Stevens, being expelled from a New York Masonic lodge, started one on his own account and roped in fifteen or twenty men into his side show at twenty or twenty five dollars apiece. But the true blues interfered and caused rigid justice to interfere with John's scheme for uniting revenge and money making.

The first shipment by rail of wheat and flour from San Francisco to New York is now en route, the ten car loads of it.

One result announced as sure to come from the war will be hailed by the public as indeed a worthy boon. We are promised the settlement of the Schleswig-Holstein question, with its entire disappearance from public view.

A California paper tells the following story, to illustrate the knack of the Chinese to do whatever anybody else can: "When San Jose a gentleman wanted fourteen houses built. A Chinaman took the job, and hired an American carpenter to build one of them. While he was at work the Chinaman lay around and watched every movement he made. As soon as he finished it the Chin